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MARRIAGE.

On the 28th November, 1893, at Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, by the Rev. H. C. Hodges, M.A., FREDERICK, eldest son of Frederick DUMFRIES, of Brighton, to EDITH, eldest daughter of John F. MACRAE, M.D., of Brighton.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The French mail of the 4th November arrived, per M. M. steamer *Salazie*, on the 5th December (31 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

An epidemic of ophthalmia prevails at Hanoi, affecting the French population as well as the natives.

Senor E. J. Plaza, Consul-General at Yokohama for Mexico, died at Yokohama on the 24th November from Bright's disease.

In compliance with the request of the British and American authorities Mr. Tsai, Taotai of Shanghai, who was recently ordered by Imperial edict to resign his post, is to remain in office until the question of Settlement extension is disposed of.

The annual dinner of the China Association was held at the Whitehall Rooms, on 1st November, Sir William Des Vaux, G.C.M.G., presiding.

The inaugural dinner of the Kobe branch of the China Association was held there on the 24th, November, Mr. A. H. Groom in the chair. The Hon. T. H. Whitehead was among the guests.

Lord Charles Beresford has wired from Hankow, in answer to the telegram from the Kobe committee of the China Association, accepting the invitation to dine with the members during his visit to Japan, but stating that it is impossible at present to fix a date.

The Emperor of Japan paid a visit to Kobe on the 19th November for the purpose of reviewing the standing squadron. Advantage was taken of the opportunity by the foreign community to present an address, which His Majesty was graciously pleased to receive.

The opening ceremony in connection with the extension of the Kyushu Railway Company's line to Nagasaki, or to be accurate, the completion of the Omura-Nagayo section that brings Nagasaki into communication with the main line, was performed on the 26th November at Isahaya.

An Imperial edict published on the 29th November states that Prince Ching is to take the place of the Emperor in worshipping at the Imperial graves on the 10th day of the 11th moon, which is his custom every year. This year the Emperor does not feel strong enough to walk and so assigns this duty to another.—*China Gazette*.

Consul-General Wildman is in receipt of a telegram from the Military Governor of Manila stating that the Insurgents attacked Iloilo on the 7th December in strong force and that in an attack made four days previously the Spaniards repulsed the Insurgents with a loss of 300 men. It is believed the Spaniards still hold possession of the town but cannot for long.

According to a Tientsin telegram of the 2nd December to the *N. C. Daily News* Li Hung-chang left for the inspection of the Yellow River on the 2nd December by way of Tschou. H.E. was accompanied by a large staff of deputies, etc., who are to assist him in his work. Tschou is a city of Chihli province bordering on the Shantung frontiers. It is on the Grand Canal.

We are reliably informed that M. Olarovsky, Russian *Chargé d'Affaires* at Bangkok, has wired his Government that the British papers in the East have referred to him as a mere commercial Consul, and that this will have a bad effect on the Siamese. The Russian Government at once instructed him to assume the style and title of Minister-Resident and Consul-General of Russia at Bangkok. This will be made public in the course of a few days.—*Straits Times*.

According to a Wuchang dispatch a Cantonese syndicate is negotiating with the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung about the purchase of the valuable silk-weaving machinery H.E. recently bought from Europe in connection with his modern College of Sericulture at Hanyang. If the syndicate succeeds in getting the above machinery on favourable terms it is intended to remove it to Hankow where the manufacture of silk fabrics will be vigorously prosecuted.

M. Jean Dupuis, the originator of French enterprise in Tonkin, is reported to be in distressed circumstances and living in Paris on the charity of his friends. An attempt is being made to obtain for him a Government allowance.

In reply to a letter from Dr. Macleod the Shanghai Municipal Council decided to say that the Council will not oppose the introduction of motor carriages, under certain restrictions as to speed. An estimate to supply the necessary power from the Council's Electric Light Works at 10 candareens per unit is authorised as an experimental measure.

Dr. Calmette, formerly in charge of the Pasteur Institute at Saigon, has, we learn from the Saigon papers, presented the sum of 250,000 francs to the Pasteur Institute at Paris, being part of the profits realised on his inventions in connection with distillation. While at Saigon he discovered a process for rapid fermentation in the production of alcohol, and this discovery, with others by which it was followed, have proved of great value in connection with the distilling industry.

Hitherto all arms, ammunition, and other war materials ordered by the Japanese Military and Naval Departments from England and other European countries have been brought to Japan in foreign steamers and insured by foreign companies. Recently, the Nippon Yusen Kaisha applied to the two departments to secure the carrying of the cargo in the Company's vessels. It is said that the Military Department has already granted the application and that a favourable reply is also expected from the Naval Department. The cargo, it is added, will also be insured in future by Japanese underwriters.—*Nagasaki Press*.

The *Foochow Echo* of the 3rd December says:—The Chinese gun-boat *Fu-An* cleared the Losing Dry Dock on last Monday and the cruiser *Hai-Chao* took her place on Thursday. She is to remain in the dock about a fortnight. The *Hai-Chao* is not less than 3,000 tons displacement and 328 feet long. That so large a ship entered the dock of Pagoda is a matter of importance for our Arsenal as it proves that the new dock which was reputed unfit for use and had been nearly given away by the Chinese before the arrival of the French experts has been put in good order and made able to admit safely big ships.

The vote passed by the Legislative Council of the Straits Settlements for the West Indian Relief Fund does not meet with the approval of a writer in the *Malay Mail*, who says:—Why should the Government of the Straits Settlements give away \$10,000 to the West Indies? I can only suppose that owing to the lamentable fizzle of the Mansion House fund the Colonial Office has felt called upon to invite some of the other colonies to bear a hand. The West Indies are nothing to us, whilst there are many more deserving cases nearer home. Its a bad precedent, Mr. Editor, and I don't like it. When the people of India were in need we put our hands in our pockets without being asked to do so by Government. We had many interests in common with the people of India and we acted by them in a neighbourly and friendly way. But the West Indies are nothing to us and if they are in need of help it should come from the pockets of Britishers and not Chinese in the Straits Settlements.

THE CHINA ASSOCIATION DINNER.*(Daily Press, 7th December.)*

To residents in the Far East who have not the opportunity of attending the annual dinner of the China Association in London it must always be a pleasure to read the reports of that interesting gathering and to scan the list of those present. The Association's record of work is embodied in the annual report and appendices, the speeches at the dinner being of a complimentary and convivial character rather than expositions of high policy. At the gathering held on the 1st of last month there were, however, one or two declarations made which will strike home to residents in China or Hongkong. The one that touches us most immediately in this colony is the statement made by such a high authority as General CAMERON that our garrison is insufficient. General CAMERON has filled the Hongkong command and knows whereof he speaks. If it struck him that the garrison was insufficient at the time he was here how much more must that be the case now, seeing that the foreign fleets on the station have been strengthened, that Russia now has a large army massed within easy striking distance, and that the French have not only consolidated and strengthened their position in Tonkin, but by their occupation of Kwangchowwan have become our very close neighbours and, by attempting to claim the territory on our very borders as within their sphere of influence, as well as trying to carve out a piece of the Yangtze Valley, are laying the seeds for a crop of difficult and irritating questions. We commend General CAMERON's remarks to the attention of all who are interested in the security of this colony and especially to the local branch of the China Association.

The need for a stronger garrison for Hongkong is all the greater if we are, as we all hope, to adopt a more determined and definite policy in the Far East, in encouraging which, as Sir WILLIAM DES VŒUX said, the solid front presented by the nation on the Fashoda question will be of advantage. In defining the policy to be pursued it should be recognised that British interests in China are threatened much more by French than by Russian designs. With Russia it may be possible to arrive at a working agreement advantageous to both sides and to the world at large, but France is avowedly inimical to British interests, her object being to forestall us and exclude us wherever she can by any means succeed in doing so. Her aim is less to advantage herself than to injure us, and of her methods we have recently had a striking example in the Fashoda incident. The spirit that dictated the Marchand expedition is operative in France's policy in the Far East and must be combatted with firmness.

Will China herself, as represented by her Government, count for anything in the solution of the various problems depending upon the future disposition of the country, or is she to be treated like a dead whale being cut up for the blubber? Lord LOCH, at the China Association dinner, after referring to the phenomenal progress made by Japan, went on to say that he was one of those who looked forward to the revival of civilization in the Great Empire of China and thought that under a stable Government and with the support of Great Britain a great future was yet in store for it; he believed that it was possible with judicious Government to restore in a great measure the balance of power in China, and he

sincerely trusted, after what had taken place nearer home, that we should at last make a stand to defend British interests in China. Lord LOCH does not say so in so many words, but what he apparently means is that we should pursue a similar policy in China to that which has been so successfully pursued in Egypt. That seems to us the only alternative to the partitioning of the country. The world will not stand waiting very long for the revival of civilisation in China, and if that is the means by which the country is to be saved as an independent state and an open market for the trade of the world Great Britain must play the part of revivalist.

FATHER FLEURY'S CASE AND BRITISH RESPONSIBILITY IN THE YANGTZE VALLEY.*(Daily Press, 9th December.)*

If the Chinese authorities neglect to deal promptly and firmly with YU MAN-TSZE's rebellion in Szechuen and to secure the release of the Rev. Father FLEURY they will render themselves liable to disagreeable consequences. The French are talking about sending a military expedition to rescue the unfortunate captive, and no one could deny their right to do so; indeed, failing effective action by the Chinese, it would seem to be a duty. Every civilised state is responsible for the safety of its subjects pursuing a law abiding career in other countries, and our own history records several instances of demonstrations or expeditions undertaken for the purpose of securing redress for individuals who have been the victims of injustice or for effecting the release of captives. The Rev. Father FLEURY, a missionary peaceably pursuing his calling, has been made a captive by YU MAN-TSZE, a sort of Celestial Robin Hood, and is now held for ransom. So far the Chinese authorities have failed to secure his release, more from supineness than inability, and action by the French would be amply justified. Szechuen itself would be rather awkward to reach, owing to the difficulties of transport, but these are not insurmountable. Possibly, however, France may elect to exert pressure elsewhere in order to make the Chinese Government perform its duty in the matter. In either case there would be a bill to pay, but what is more important is that if territory were occupied by France she might not be disposed to evacuate it on the conclusion of the incident. And, having regard to the present situation in China and the mutual jealousy of the Powers as to their spheres of influence, any seizure of territory at this juncture might lead to international complications of a dangerous order. It is to be hoped therefore that the Diplomatic Body at Peking will exert their utmost influence with the Tsungli Yamen in support of the representations made by the French Minister as to the importance of effecting the prompt release of Father FLEURY. The matter is one that specially interests Great Britain, for if we claim the Yangtze Valley as our special sphere of influence and intend to prevent other Powers exacting satisfaction in that direction it follows that some responsibility must rest upon us for the safety of the subjects of other nations, either by compelling or inducing the Chinese Government to take the necessary measures or by taking the work in hand ourselves. A prompt recognition of our responsibility would be calculated to prevent future questioning of our rights.

HON. T. H. WHITEHEAD ON THE CHINA CRISIS.*(Daily Press, 5th December.)*

In another column we reprint from the San Francisco *Bulletin* two remarkable letters by the Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD on the situation in China. To whom the letters were addressed is not stated, but from the closing paragraph of the second one it would seem that they must have been written as a private communication to some person of influence who has handed them to the *Bulletin* for publication; they do not bear the appearance of letters addressed direct to the editor. The general tone of the letters may be described as that of "swearing at" "large," the hon. gentleman laying down no definite line of policy that he thinks should be adopted, but bending all his energies to show that everything in connection with the British position in China is at sixes and sevens, a task that has of late been performed over and over again *ad nauseam*. Of destructive criticism Lord SALISBURY and his policy we have had enough and to spare; what is wanted now is the display of some constructive ability in statesmanship; and when Lord CHARLES BERESFORD passes through Hongkong on his homeward journey we hope the Chamber of Commerce and the China Association may be able to tell his Lordship not only that things are not exactly as they like them, but what they think ought to be done to mend them. On the latter point Mr. WHITEHEAD's letters are a complete blank. He concludes his first letter by propounding the very question to which he might have been expected himself to supply the answer. "One of the most grave questions of the day," he says, "is whether it would be judicious for England, single-handed, to bolster up and defend the maintenance and integrity of the rotten, corrupt, and indefensible Chinese Government." And at that he leaves it. For our part we should say it would not be judicious for England to bolster up and defend any "indefensible" Government, more especially a rotten and corrupt Government. If we are to undertake any great enterprise in China it ought to be in the direction of giving the country an entirely new or thoroughly reformed Government. Then again, it will be noticed that although Russia is Mr. WHITEHEAD's *bête noire*, he makes it one of his grounds of complaint against the Unionist Government that "it has pursued a course which has placed England in hostility to Russia." The hon. gentleman's idea apparently is that we should have kicked Russia out, or slammed the door in her face, without giving her offence, a delicate operation beyond the capacity of any mundane Government, we fear. We may amuse ourselves by blaming the Government for not having miraculously combined the *fortiter in re* with the *suaviter in modo*, but the important question is, what is to be done at the present crisis? Perhaps the most extraordinary portion of Mr. WHITEHEAD's letters, however, is his reference to the Kowloon extension and the acquisition of Weihaiwei. Having mentioned the acquisitions of Russia, Germany, and France, the hon. gentleman goes on to say:—"And Britain, yes, Great Britain, it is sad to think that notwithstanding her oft declared policy of the integrity of China, and her big talk of stopping grabbing, has herself grabbed and 'leased' Weihaiwei and two hundred square miles of territory at Kowloon, opposite Hongkong." We do not think the British communities in China and Hongkong will share the hon.

gentleman's feeling of sadness at this "grabbing" and "leasing." The chief reason for sadness is that our Kowloon frontier was not rectified many years ago and that Great Britain neglected until the other day to secure a position of strength in the north.

FRENCH COLONISATION AND TRADE IN INDO-CHINA.

In refutation of the statement that the French are not colonisers the *Echo de Chine* publishes a series of tables from the Customs Reports showing the growth of the import and export trade of the French possessions in Indo-China during the past ten years. Excluding treasure and goods in transit the total value of the trade rose from 139,078,174 francs in 1888 to 205,231,545 francs in 1897. This is certainly a fair showing on the face of it, even after making a deduction on account of Annam, which does not appear to have been included in the returns until 1891, but the external trade of which now amounts in value to over seven million francs. The total imports of Cochin-China and Cambodia amounted in value to 39,388,286 francs in 1888, and to 51,922,684 francs in 1897, the large increase being mainly in goods imported from France, the value of which rose from 9,687,119 francs in 1888 to 20,825,931 francs in 1897, while imports from foreign countries only rose from 29,701,167 francs to 31,096,753 francs. In the important item of piece goods, which seem to be the staple most severely hit by the differential tariff, the trade is being rapidly monopolised by France. Thus in 1888 goods of this class from France figured for the whole of Indo-China at 1,944,138 francs only, while in 1897 the value had risen to 10,662,422 francs, foreign goods, on the other hand, falling from 13,452,917 francs to 7,248,983 francs. But while the tariff succeeds in transferring the trade from foreign to French goods it places a strong check on the increase of consumption, as is shown by the fact that while in 1888 the imports of piece goods amounted in value to 15,896,055 francs they had in 1897 only risen to 17,911,405 francs, an increase which compares very unfavourably with the increase in the total imports of the colony, although with an open market it is in this class of goods that the largest increase might have been looked for. The tables given are not sufficiently complete to enable us to trace how the decline in foreign piece goods was counterbalanced by increases in other lines—for as shown above there has been a slight increase in the total during the ten years—but metals and opium account for some part of the discrepancy and the remainder is probably represented by goods of Chinese and Japanese origin. Looking at the total value of the whole trade it must be admitted that the country has benefited in a commercial sense by French rule, but having regard to the course of the piece goods trade it is also clear that French colonial expansion can never be regarded favourably by merchants and manufacturers of other nationalities. Our neighbours hope before long to incorporate Hainan with their Indo-Chinese possessions, a hope which we believe to be doomed to disappointment, but assuming it to be fulfilled goods of other than French origin would at once be subjected to a hostile tariff there. There exists, therefore, very good reason why the acquisition should be opposed by other Powers on commercial grounds alone, irrespective of political considerations. The colonial policy of France is to exploit the colonies for the benefit of

France alone; incidentally the colonies themselves benefit from the establishment of law and order and are immeasurably better off than under native rule, but they do not make the progress they would if their markets were thrown open to the world at large.

A PACIFIC TELEGRAPH CABLE.

(Daily Press, 3rd December).

The determination of the United States to retain the Philippines renders the early laying a telegraph cable across the Pacific a certainty. A Washington press despatch of the 19th November states that the United States representatives on the Peace Commission sitting at Paris had been instructed to acquire one of the Caroline Islands by purchase from Spain, to be used as an intermediary station for the Pacific cable, and goes on to lay down the proposed route of the cable, namely, from Hongkong to the northern part of the Philippines, thence to one of the islands in the northern Caroline Group, thence to the Hawaiian Islands, and thence to the United States. As there is already a cable from Hongkong to Manila it hardly seems probable that the United States should wish to lay another on that section. There are, moreover, agreements in existence which place restrictions on the landing of cables in Hongkong, the Eastern Extension Company being possessed of what is virtually an exclusive privilege. Possibly however that Company may be entrusted with the work of laying the American cable across the Pacific and an agreement may be entered into regarding the future operation of the line, in which case probably no difficulty would be raised as to the landing of the cable in Hongkong, should it be decided to continue it to this point; but if the new line threatened opposition presumably the Company now in possession would stand upon its rights. At the half yearly meeting of the Company held on the 26th October the Chairman, the Marquis of Tweeddale, said he had on more than one occasion referred to the probability of the establishment of cable communication in the Pacific, and the occupation of the Philippines by the United States had undoubtedly given a stimulus to efforts having that object in view, but, as far as they knew, nothing definite had yet been arranged, and all he could say with respect to the matter was that they were carefully watching developments having that direction, and he felt that the shareholders might rely on it that they were taking steps to protect their interest in every possible way. But a cable will undoubtedly be laid across the Pacific, whether it be extended to Hongkong or not, and presumably there will be a considerable cheapening of the rates at present in force between the points to be served by the new line, which will induce a more than proportionate increase of traffic. One of the effects may be, by force of example, to induce the Eastern Extension to reduce its rates to Europe, a consummation devoutly to be wished. While welcoming the American enterprise there is, however, one cause for regret, namely, that it may discourage the laying of a British cable across the Pacific to connect Hongkong and Canada, and to some extent the laying of the projected cable between Canada and Australia may also be discouraged, for with an American line already touching at Honolulu the commercial prospects of the British cable would be prejudiced to the extent of the loss of the Hawaiian traffic.

KOWLOON CITY AND CHINESE JURISDICTION.

(Daily Press, 8th December).

The information conveyed to the public through Reuter with respect to the position of Kowloon city when the new territory is taken over, while in part it may lessen the administrative objections to the maintenance of Chinese jurisdiction there, does not render the anomaly any less extraordinary than it at first appeared. The city itself is an insignificant little place with only a couple of hundred inhabitants in addition to the garrison, and this is all that is to be reserved to the Chinese; the suburbs, stretching from the city to the shore, and with a population of several thousands, are to come under British jurisdiction. The administrative objections to the divided jurisdiction will naturally be diminished in proportion to the contraction of the Chinese sphere, but they can never be wholly removed until the last trace of Chinese rule disappears. However desirous the mandarin individually may be to discharge his functions with circumspection it may be accepted as a foregone conclusion that his satellites will endeavour to make use of their position to squeeze and hector over the surrounding population. Also in cases of crime, if the criminal can succeed in reaching Kowloon city the police will only be able to effect his arrest on application to the mandarin in charge, and the dignity of British rule will thereby be impaired in the eyes of the ordinary population. In these and various unforeseen ways continual friction will arise which, although the individual cases may not possess any great seriousness, will inevitably cause a good deal of irritation. The mandarin is apparently to be left at Kowloon city to keep alive in the eyes of the population the rights of the Chinese Government as the lessor of the soil, and his presence will prove as distasteful to the British community as that of a bailiff in a private house. We hope Sir HENRY BLAKE will take this matter up strongly and make such representations as may secure the abolition of such an intolerable anomaly as the maintenance of a Chinese enclave in British territory. If the administrative difficulties that were anticipated be reduced by the fact that Chinese jurisdiction is to be confined strictly within the walls of Kowloon city, the political objections remain as great as ever. On the one side we have the British Government, jealous of any infringement of its jurisdiction, and on the other a Chinese mandarin entrusted with the special function of keeping constantly before the eyes of his countrymen the fact that the British occupy the territory only on sufferance and by favour. In proportion as he finds himself divested of actual power this official will be induced to make large pretensions in the attempt to maintain a style and dignity that can have no basis of substantiality. Such a state of things cannot fail to lead to undesirable complications.

On the evening of the 21st November the *Tenjin-maru*, a large Japanese junk, collided off Uragi, Sagami, with the M. M. steamer *Melbourne*. The former vessel was so badly damaged that she quickly filled and sank. The crew of the boat were saved by the *Melbourne* and taken on to Yokohama. The loss of the Japanese vessel is estimated at 25,000 yen, and negotiations are proceeding between the Japanese authorities at Kanagawa and the French Consul for an amicable settlement of the matter.—*Nagasaki Press*.

A BRITISH GUNBOAT CHRISTENED AT SHANGHAI.

LAUNCHING OF THE "WOODCOCK."

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."]

SHANGHAI, 8th December.

The British gunboat *Woodcock* was launched to-day and was christened by Miss Hannen, daughter of the Chief Justice.

[The *Woodcock* is one of the river gunboats recently brought out from home in sections.]

THE SZECHUEN REBELLION.

FATHER FLEURY'S SAFETY DISPAIRED OF.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."]

Shanghai, 5th December.

Chungking telegraphs denying the surrender of Yu Man-tze, the rebel leader.

The situation in Szechuen is serious.

Hopes of saving the Rev. Father Fleury, held in captivity by the rebels, have been abandoned.

FATHER FLEURY'S CAPTIVITY.

THREATENED FRENCH RESCUING EXPEDITION TO SZECHUEN.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."]

SHANGHAI, 7th December.

A reported French ultimatum threatens to send a force from Tonkin to Szechuen to rescue Father Fleury, who is held in captivity by the rebel Yu Man-tze.

FRENCH DEMANDS AT SHANGHAI

CRITICAL SITUATION.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE "DAILY PRESS."]

Shanghai, 5th December.

The French demands made at Nanking with reference to the extension of the so-called French Settlement at Shanghai are equivalent to the alienation of an appreciable portion of the Yangtze Valley.

The Viceroy is menaced, but stoutly refuses to comply with the demands.

Sir Claude MacDonald is silent.

Shanghai, 1st December.

The Chinese officials appear to have learned, though at a rather late hour, a lesson from the German seizure of Kiaochau. According to dispatches received from Nanking, when it was rumoured that, owing to the difficulty of settling the French claims regarding the Ningpo Cemetery riot, the French intended to emulate the German example at Kiaochau by the seizure of some place in the Yangtze Valley, both Viceroy Liu and Viceroy Chang, who have charge of the defences of the great river, made every preparation to prevent the threatened coup, and all military officials from Tsungming island, near Shanghai, up to Ichang received strict orders to resist any such aggression as was expected, on pain of losing their heads. Extra troops were called in from the interior to reinforce the garrisons on the Yangtze, and large quantities of ammunition were sent to them with orders to use it freely whenever needed. But when Count de Bezaure arrived at Nanking to confer with Viceroy Liu guarded only by a second-class cruiser, the *Descartes*, the tension was considerably relieved,—it having been also rumoured that the French Consul-General would be escorted to Nanking by the whole French squadron of the Far East. In spite of the peaceful action of the French so far, there are yet many responsible mandarins who claim that the reports they had received concerning the anticipated aggressions of the French were from "perfectly reliable sources."

Shanghai, 2nd December.

The Count de Bezaure's demands on the Viceroy, which it is reported he has threatened to enforce by the guns of the *Descartes*, are of such a preposterous nature that it would seem that the French Consul-General is trying to pick a quarrel with some ulterior object in view. He asks for the whole of the Chinese

Bund, and for territory to the south and west of the city, thus making the Chinese city an enclave in the proposed French Settlement. Then he asks for land on Pootung, where the French have no interests whatever, except as far as concerns missionary establishments, and hereafter a further piece of territory to be as large in extent as the territory to be granted to the British or the U.S. Consul-General, whichever is the larger. The Viceroy, of course, will not agree to this, and has represented that Count de Bezaure is practically by his browbeating encouraging all the disorderly elements in the lower Yangtze Valley; but we cannot believe that the French Minister at Peking or the French Government really understand the length to which the French Consul-General is going, and the danger which the interests of all foreigners here and on the Yangtze are incurring from his action.

Shanghai, 3rd December.

In anticipation of any possible acts of aggression on the part of the French squadron failing the satisfactory settlement of the Ningpo Cemetery riots, the Viceroy Liu has ordered the whole of the Nanyang squadron of ten cruisers and gunboats with the torpedo squadron to rendezvous at Nanking at once, instead of being scattered as hitherto at Woosung, Kiangyin, Chinkiang, and other places. Furthermore it is probable that H.E. the Viceroy desires, if there is any fighting to be done, that his Nanyang officers should fight under H.E.'s own eyes this time.—It appears that so far there has been only one application for leave of absence in the squadron, which it is needless to say has not been successful.

A Nanking native dispatch states that owing to the curious movements of the French cruiser *Descartes*, which has been steaming hither and thither before Nanking taking soundings, and at night firing guns and showing her electric lights, the Viceroy Liu ordered the cruisers *Nansheng* and *Weiching* to follow the French vessel and report on her movements. An officer of one of the Chinese cruisers having boarded the *Descartes* he was shown about the ship, which had her guns run out, ammunition out on the decks, and everything denoting that the vessel was prepared for action. There were twenty-four guns on board, so reported the officer, and he was further told that "the French Minister at Peking had been told of the Viceroy Liu's obduracy" and that the French Consul-General expected some more French men-of-war to arrive at Nanking in a few days when some definite action would be taken to bring matters to a conclusion. In reply to the above report the Viceroy merely commanded instructions to be telegraphed to all his military officers commanding the defences of the Yangtze to keep a strict look-out to prevent surprise and to open fire if any suspicious movements were seen.

Shanghai, 5th December.

It is an easy thing to laugh at the demands now being put forward at Nanking by France, but laughter and talk as to how preposterous those demands are will have no practical effect, and it is open to question whether the general foreign community of Shanghai really recognise the gravity of the position. Many seem to regard these demands as being simply for an extension of French municipal control, likely to be beneficial to both foreigners and natives. To some extent this may be true and were that all there would be no cause for anything but congratulations. This, however, is not the true position, and it behoves everyone interested in the future welfare of Shanghai, whether they be proprietors of land, merchants, missionaries, or anything else, to carefully consider what the French demands really are and what is likely to be the practical effect if those demands are conceded by China.

It must be first borne in mind that these demands are not merely for an extension of municipal control. The French have always endeavoured to maintain that the area they already control is a "Concession;" i.e., that France has practically sovereign rights in it, and that it is "French Soil." It is not long ago that public utterance was given to this view.

It must be borne in mind, therefore, that the extensions now demanded are territorial, and as a demand conceded to through fear of force is nothing more or less than "annexation," it really means that an area probably forty or fifty

times as large as the present area of French control will be annexed by France.

The moral aspect or the right of such annexation need not be touched on here, it is simply the right of might, which may enable France to awe China into subjection and thereby to give France a "territory" subject to further expansion whenever she again hungers for land.

The position of other foreigners resident or owning property in this annexed territory need not here be discussed—all are aware that municipal government is but restricted. The supreme power, the true executive being the representative of France, naturally enough Regulations or Laws have been and always will be assimilated as closely as possible to those common in other French possessions, and these may or may not be binding or operative on other foreigners and their property. This has yet to be settled.

But all these points sink into insignificance when it is realised that what France now demands is the concession to her Government of territory.

It is nothing more or less than a demand for alienation of territory and is utterly at variance with the notorious assurance of the Chinese Government that no territory will be alienated in the Yangtze provinces.

The Powers chiefly interested in trade with China, and with this port in particular, are Great Britain, the United States, Germany, and Japan, and it behoves the subjects and citizens of those countries to awake from their apathy and to help China to resist a demand the effect of which if conceded will be an increase of French jurisdiction and influence beyond that of all the other Powers put together.

A little "note" from St. James's, from Berlin, from Washington, and from Tokyo, to Paris, reminding France that China cannot alienate the territory demanded will soon end the matter.

SUPREME COURT.

5th December.

IN ORIGINAL JURISDICTION.

BEFORE SIR JOHN CARRINGTON (CHIEF JUSTICE) AND A SPECIAL JURY.

A KOK V. BELILIOS.

In this case A Kok, of 23, D'Aguilar Street, contractor, sought to recover from the Hon. E. R. Belilios the sum of \$11,200, being the balance of money due for work done and materials provided by the plaintiff on a building belonging to the defendant which is known as Beaconsfield, lately in the occupation of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire.

Mr. Pollock (Acting Attorney-General), instructed by Mr. H. L. Dennys, appeared for the plaintiff, and Mr. Francis, Q.C. (instructed by Messrs. Wilkinson and Grist) for the defendant.

The following composed the special jury:—Messrs. R. Marten (foreman), H. M. Mehta, J. S. Van Buren, Walter Poate, W. R. Loxley, W. Hutton Potts, and C. A. Tomes. Mr. Poate asked if he could not possibly be excused, as he had already served on a special jury for several days. His Lordship, however, said that that could hardly be a valid excuse, as other gentlemen served on the same special jury.

Mr. Pollock said that Mr. Belilios in August of last year, as he was losing his old tenants, Messrs Butterfield and Swire, who were removing from Beaconsfield to their new offices on the Praya, was anxious to get the Government as tenants of Beaconsfield. In the first instance he approached the Government upon the subject through Mr. Stephens, solicitor. Mr. Stephens wrote a letter to the Colonial Secretary on the 30th of August, last year, on behalf of Mr. Belilios, pointing out that Beaconsfield would be very suitable indeed for Government offices, and that it would be advantageous, as Mr. Belilios thought, for the Government to take Beaconsfield for Government offices, and Mr. Stephens, on behalf of Mr. Belilios, in that letter quoted certain terms of lease. Those terms were not acceptable to the Government, and on the 4th of September

the Colonial Secretary wrote a brief reply to Mr. Stephens requesting him to inform Mr. Belilios that the Government declined his offer. Mr. Belilios, however, who, as the jury were probably aware, was a somewhat pertinacious man not easily driven from his point, again instructed Mr. Stephens to write to the Government, and Mr. Stephens accordingly on the 7th of September wrote another letter to the Colonial Secretary on behalf of Mr. Belilios modifying to a certain extent the proposal contained in the first letter. In his second letter Mr. Stephens pointed out that the building might conveniently be adapted to the uses of the Sanitary Department, Health Department, Educational Department, Crown Solicitor's Office, and quarters for the Chinese. Mr. Stephens also said in that letter that Mr. Belilios would have the place thoroughly done up inside and out and adapted to the purposes required. Ultimately, after a good deal of correspondence, an agreement was come to between the defendant and the Government for the lease by the defendant to the Government for three years of Beaconsfield, commencing from the 1st January, 1898, upon the following terms:—"That Beaconsfield shall be put into a state of thorough repair at the expense of Mr. Belilios, and that such alterations and additions shall be made to Beaconsfield as are required by the Government for making Beaconsfield suitable for Government offices." It was also agreed that Mr. Chatham should employ a Government contractor on behalf of Mr. Belilios to carry out the necessary repairs, alterations, and to do everything which was necessary to adapt the buildings as Government offices. It was also agreed that Mr. Belilios should pay for the work according to the scale of charges usually paid to the Government contractors, and it was further arranged that Mr. Chatham should supervise the execution of this work on behalf of Mr. Belilios as his agent and architect, and that he should receive a commission of 5 per cent. upon the amount which the work cost for supervising the work on behalf of Mr. Belilios. The plaintiff did that work and provided such materials, and sent in a bill for \$17,700, the amount having been reduced to that sum at the request of Mr. Chatham. The plaintiff had already received \$6,500 from the defendant on account on the 18th of January, and that reduced the sum to \$11,200, which the plaintiff was suing for in this suit. Dealing with the defendant's answer to the petition, Mr. Pollock said that by paragraph two of the answer it was admitted that the defendant did offer his premises to the Government and that the Government did require certain alterations to be made in Beaconsfield so as to fit it for Government occupation. It was also admitted further that Mr. Belilios did agree to make those alterations and to put the place into repair, but in answer it was stated that Mr. Belilios agreed to put the place into "tenantable repair." He thought that when the jury came to look at the correspondence they would see that the words used there were not "tenantable repair" but "thorough repair." The latter expression occurred not only in the preliminary letters written by Mr. Stephens to the Colonial Secretary, but was also to be found in a letter from the Director of Public Works to Mr. Belilios dated 5th of November, 1897. The place was put into thorough repair and the defendant would benefit thereby. It was said also in paragraph two of the answer that the cost of the alterations was estimated to be \$4,000 or thereabouts and the cost of the repairs \$2,000 or thereabouts. With regard to that point there was no doubt that Mr. Danby, who was then the defendant's architect in this matter, did estimate the cost of the alterations at about \$4,000 and the cost of the repairs at about \$2,000, and there was no doubt that that estimate was a very wide one and was absolutely incorrect. In fact it was absolutely impossible for anybody, however able he was, to estimate what would be the actual cost of repairing and altering an old building like Beaconsfield, which he thought dated as far back as the fifties. Until some work came to be done on the repairs, until the beams were removed and the repairs were actually gone into, it was impossible for anyone to form a reliable estimate as to what those repairs and alterations would cost, and Mr. Danby's estimate was absolutely inaccurate

and was very much under the mark indeed. It turned out when these alterations and repairs came to be gone into that the building was in a very rotten decayed state indeed. In fact he thought it pretty well had to be rebuilt. Mr. Danby's estimate was communicated by Mr. Belilios to Mr. Chatham in a letter dated Oct. 26th, but Mr. Chatham positively informed Mr. Belilios that he would not be bound by the estimate made by Mr. Danby. The defendant also said in paragraph two of his answer that he authorised the Public Works Department to enter upon the premises and execute the alterations and repairs, and that with the permission of the Government he employed Mr. Chatham to supervise on his behalf the execution of the alteration and repairs; and he went on to say that he agreed to repay the Government such moneys as should necessarily and properly be expended in making the alterations and repairs not exceeding the said sums of \$4,000 or \$2,000 or thereabouts. Apparently the defendant's contention was that there was a fixed estimate come to between him and the Government—\$4,000 for alterations and \$2,000 for repairs—and that the Government accepted that estimate blindly as absolutely binding, and that the Government were so foolish as to undertake the whole work on their own account, simply looking to Mr. Belilios to repay them these two sums. Mr. Belilios would have them believe that in the face of a minute by Mr. Chatham to the Director of Public Works—that he had informed Mr. Belilios that he could not be bound by Mr. Danby's estimate—the Government were actually so foolish as to take over this building, to do all the work themselves at their own risk, merely on the understanding that Mr. Belilios should repay them \$4,000 for alterations and \$2,000 for repairs. He submitted that such a story was absurd upon the face of it. A letter from Mr. Belilios to Mr. Ormsby dated October 27th practically bore out what he said. Mr. Belilios in that letter said it would be preferable to have the work carried out by the Department, adding "I shall be satisfied if it is executed under the supervision of Mr. Chatham and am prepared to pay him a commission on the outlay. In view of the expense which the alterations will entail upon me I think it only fair that the Government should pay me a percentage for money expended or \$25 a month." Then there was a letter from Mr. Belilios to Mr. Danby which made Mr. Belilios's intention in this matter absolutely clear. In this letter Mr. Belilios said, "I think it will expedite matters and please the Government if I place Beaconsfield in charge of the Public Works Department to repair and alter as required, and consequently I am writing to Mr. Ormsby to this effect." That letter showed the exact reason which operated in Mr. Belilios's mind in handing over the whole control of the work to the Government, and the reason was that it would please the Government and might expedite matters.

Mr. Francis, interrupting, contended that Mr. Pollock was departing from the pleadings in saying authority was given to the Public Works Department instead of to Mr. Chatham.

It was agreed to adjourn until after tiffin to give Mr. Pollock an opportunity of amending the pleadings.

On the Court reassembling,

Mr. Pollock said he proposed with his lordship's permission to make an amendment in paragraph two of the pleadings. It was to substitute "Public Works Department" for "William Chatham," and further on to substitute "one William Chatham," for "the said William Chatham."

Mr. Francis said that this amendment would necessitate the re-casting of the answer. It raised a totally different issue. Under the circumstances he asked that the case might be adjourned until Tuesday and that the other side should pay the costs of that day.

His Lordship admitted that the amendment was one which ought to have been made in chambers.

Mr. Francis said it ought to have been made long ago.

His Lordship—It is a vital amendment.

Mr. Francis said it was.

Mr. Pollock said it was expressly alleged in the answer that the defendant authorised the Public Works Department to enter upon the

premises and execute the work. His amendment simply followed upon what was actually alleged in the answer itself.

His Lordship granted Mr. Francis's application for an adjournment but reserved the question of costs.

6th December.

Mr. Pollock said he would draw his lordship's special attention to paragraph three of the answer. His lordship would find, as he anticipated the previous day, that the other side had been trying to depart from their answer as originally drafted. His lordship would see that some lines at the beginning of paragraph three of the answer had been struck out—the lines which stated that Mr. Chatham was the second senior officer of the Public Works Department, and that the plaintiff was employed by Mr. Chatham in his capacity as an officer of the Public Works Department. He submitted that this ought not to have been struck out. It was quite open to his friend to amend by way of making any addition to his answer which he considered necessary to meet an amendment to the petition, but it was not open to him to strike out any statement or allegation in the answer. In making the amendment in the petition which he did the previous day he had in his mind this statement in paragraph three of the answer. As he informed the court the previous day, his argument was that there was a continuous string of agency between the plaintiff and the defendant, coming first of all from the defendant to the Public Works Department and then from the Public Works Department to Mr. Chatham, and then from Mr. Chatham to the plaintiff. He pleaded in the amended paragraph two of the petition that the plaintiff was engaged by the Public Works Department. It was not necessary for him to carry the string any further, because they had already an admission in paragraph three of the answer that Mr. Chatham was the second senior officer in the Public Works Department and that the plaintiff was employed by Mr. Chatham in his capacity as officer of the Public Works Department to execute the alterations and repairs.

Mr. Francis said in the first place he submitted that it was not open to his friend to take any objection of this description at all. His friend obtained leave from his lordship to amend his petition. As his lordship stated the day before, it was an amendment on a vital point. He (Mr. Francis) had general leave to amend his answer—to make such amendment in that answer as occurred to him in the exercise of his best discretion in the interests of his client as necessitated by the amendment of the petition, and he submitted that any amendment he had made, whether of omission or addition, was perfectly within the leave which was granted. He thought his lordship would see that although these words were struck out substantially the same allegation was contained in the amendment made to the previous section. His lordship would see that in the first form of the petition the allegation they had to meet was that Mr. Chatham was Mr. Belilios's duly authorised agent and that Mr. Chatham engaged and employed A Kok and established a contract between Mr. Belilios and A Kok. His friend amended that—got rid of the allegation entirely—and now claimed that the Public Works Department were authorised by Mr. Belilios to employ a person to do a particular work and that by employing any person the Government established a contractual relation between him and Mr. Belilios. Mr. Francis proceeded to deal in detail with the amendments in his answer to the petition.

His Lordship said he thought the only way to get rid of the difficulty was for Mr. Pollock to make a formal application to re-instate the paragraph in question in the answer. On the whole he was rather of opinion counsel should have the opportunity if they wished it of dealing with the matter in a formal way, and he was also strongly of opinion that it would be more satisfactory in the trial of the case that the issues should be settled first. He quite understood that otherwise there might be some difficulty in placing the case clearly and properly before the jury. He would ask counsel to endeavour to settle the issues, and if they could not come to an agreement the Court might have to settle the matter.

Mr. Francis thought the issues should be settled before the case went any further.

His Lordship concurred.

Mr. Pollock submitted that it would be more convenient for him to continue his address to the jury. He did not see why the jury should not be put in possession of the facts of the case. They had all the correspondence before them.

His Lordship (to Mr. Francis)—What do you say to that?

Mr. Francis said he did not think it right or reasonable, because once the issues were settled both the topics on which the jury should be addressed and the evidence to be called and the direction of the cross-examination would depend entirely upon those issues. Once the issues were settled his friend in his address to the jury would be bound by those issues.

His Lordship (To Mr. Pollock)—Supposing you go on with your address and you say the issues are so and so and it turns out otherwise, it would be rather awkward.

Mr. Pollock—I shall go on the allegation contained in his answer; he cannot complain of that.

His Lordship—But still it is necessary that counsel in opening his case should state clearly what are the issues the jury have to decide.

Mr. Pollock—I propose to go on as I said yesterday: take the actual allegations contained in the answer and endeavour to show, as I began to do yesterday, that those allegations are not correct. I submit, my lord, I am entitled to do that.

His Lordship thought the most satisfactory course for both parties would be for the issues to be settled before they proceeded further, so that Mr. Pollock would be able to state clearly to the jury what the issues were.

The further hearing was adjourned until Monday so that the issues might be settled in the meantime.

7th December.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. JUSTICE WISE (PUISNE JUDGE).

JOSEPH V. WEI HING.

S. A. Joseph, sharebroker, sought to recover from Wei Hing, compradore, care of H. H. Kirch and Company, \$200, balance of account rendered for shares purchased on the defendant's behalf.

Mr. Hirsthouse appeared for the plaintiff and Mr. Hastings for the defendant.

Mr. Hirsthouse said shares were bought on behalf of defendant to the extent of \$750, the plaintiff being the broker, and a call of \$200 being made made the total \$950. The defendant was credited with \$750, leaving \$200 still due. The transaction was conducted by a Mr. Fredericks, at that time a clerk in the plaintiff's employ, and the plaintiff was suing practically for money paid for and on behalf of the defendant at his request.

The plaintiff said he used to have a clerk in his employ named Fredericks. On the 25 January last, in consequence of what Mr. Fredericks told him, he made an entry in his day book in reference to this transaction. The shares in question were purchased the same day through Mr. Remedios, and an agreement was signed between Remedios and the defendant on the 29th January, and he (the plaintiff) squared the account with Mr. Remedios, also paying a call of \$200, which amount was due to him.

By Mr. Hastings—The shares were in the Great Eastern and Caledonian Gold Mining Company. The contract was signed by Mr. Remedios as seller. Witness had no interest in the transaction except as broker.

It did not transpire from the cross-examination of the plaintiff or the evidence of Fredericks, who contended that he used to be the plaintiff's partner and not his clerk, that the defendant gave the plaintiff instructions to pay the \$200 call.

Mr. Hastings submitted that there had been no case made out on behalf of plaintiff, and His Honour, concurring, gave judgment for the defendant with costs.

AFFAIRS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

ARRIVAL OF TRANSPORTS "ARIZONA" AND "OHIO" WITH OVER 2,000 TROOPS.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Manila, 27th November.

The arrival of the transports *Arizona* and *Ohio* with two thousand odd men from the States has kept the excitement at fever heat during the last three days. The idea is widespread among the "veteran volunteers" who came over in time for work in the trenches that the coming of the latest addition means to them a speedy return home. In spite of discouraging rumours from headquarters and the opinion of those who are watching the movements of the troops in the States, the boys will have it that they are booked for home in time for New Year's dinners.

The *Arizona* made a record trip of fourteen days from Honolulu and carried one battalion of the First Nebraska Infantry under Acting Major Killon, third battalion of the 18th U.S. Infantry, a battalion of recruits for the 10th Pennsylvania Volunteers, and a number of recruits for the 1st Colorado Volunteers. The total number of passengers was 1,021, all well and very little sickness on the voyage. The transport *Ohio*, twenty-eight days from San Francisco, brought the 1st Washington (Pacific Coast) Volunteer Regiment under Colonel Wholley, a few extra recruits for the California Heavy Artillery, and a large cargo of supplies and provisions.

The *Indiana* is expected every day with the 20th Kansas Volunteers and recruits for some of the regiments here; and according to the sailing dates the *Zelandia* will not be far behind her, with men of the Tennessee Volunteers; but it is not certain that the latter will come all the way to Manila as orders may have been issued to remain at Honolulu. Altogether there are three transports known to be en route for Manila, and from present indications it is not likely that more troops will be sent here. The army will have then reached a little over 25,000 men, volunteers and regulars—heavy artillery, light artillery, cavalry, infantry, and engineers. In cooperation with the navy, which is to be strengthened by the *Buffalo* and perhaps two battleships, this force is considered sufficient to control and meet all emergencies in the islands. No more striking example is needed to show the extreme changes that have taken place in the States than to remember for a moment that as late as March of this very year the entire army of the United States numbered 25,000 men. In a few days there will be 25,000 troops in the Philippines alone, to say nothing of Cuba, Puerto Rico, Hawaiian Islands, and the home garrisons.

The work of landing the troops from the transports has begun very slowly. Manila is nearly up to her limit in soldiers. All the Spanish barracks are occupied and many private houses and godowns have been turned into quarters. The same state of affairs exists in Binondo, Sampaloc, and on the south bank of the Pasig. Definite quarters sufficiently large to accommodate all the new men have not yet been found.

NEWS OF THE INSURGENTS.

The argument between General Otis and General Aguinaldo is still going on. The bone of contention is the release of the Spanish civil and clerical prisoners. It is well known that the priesthood of America through its representatives here is doing all that lies in its power to liberate the imprisoned brethren. On the subject some letters have passed between the two Generals. The last document sent by the insurgent leader handles the subject in a very able manner, and is not without some little touches of what may be construed to be sarcasm. As the letter to which this is a reply has not come to my notice I am unable to judge fairly, but the insurgent leader's letter argues well. He argues from the basis of statements made by General Otis as follows:—

"You say in your letter that mere employes of any Government may not be made prisoners of war unless they are actively serving against the enemy either in arms or diplomatically, and I (Aguinaldo) am prepared, not to say pleased, to take the dictum of such a competent authority as yourself, and on this alone rest my remarks

for keeping prisoners both the civil and religious servants of Spain now in the hands of the Revolutionary Government."

He quotes from other letters wherein he showed how all civil employes and religious orders had formed Volunteer Corps and waged active warfare against the Indians. He cites examples and mentions particular cases of clericals as regular soldiers. The convents afforded the strongest forts to the Spaniards. Continuing, the leader says: "Will you after this still argue that I should not keep civil servants prisoners?"

Again, he investigates international law as expounded by Martens and Bluntschli and treats of those exempt from imprisonment according to the Geneva Convention.

With regard to reprisals he says:—"During the American war of Independence the great Washington ordered an English Colonel Argyle, a prisoner of the Americans, to be shot in revenge for the shooting of an American Colonel by the English, and it was only due to the prayers of the Queen of France that the order was not carried out."

Further on he writes—"In the same way, General, when I said that we held prisoners for the purpose of forcing the Spaniards to set the Philippines they held at liberty, and to make the Vatican recognise the rights of the Philippine clericals, I do not mean that we founded our claim to keep them prisoners on these reasons, but merely to indicate that if these things were brought to pass, it would then be a most opportune moment for us to set our prisoners at liberty, without going against the wishes of my people. I would be glad to see this chance so that I might prove to you what a lively sympathy I have with your wishes, with which for the present I am unable to comply."

The letter ends with a polite tribute to the noble impulses and sagacity of the American General. The fact remains that Aguinaldo found himself unable to comply with the wishes of General Otis for the present.

PHILIPPINO BOMBAST.

ARRIVAL OF THE OVERDUE TRANSPORT.

Manila, 1st December.

The steamer *Indiana*, over whose non-appearance some little anxiety has been felt, arrived yesterday, having been thirty-five days on the trip from San Francisco. She brings eight companies of the 20th Kansas Volunteers, mails, and supplies, and reports good weather and but little sickness other than the usual troubles among a large body of men at sea. In addition to the troops five women were passengers by the *Indiana*; with the exception of one, the better half of a missionary, they are the wives of officers of the regiment. It is generally understood that the Government refused to transport ladies of the Red Cross Society, and others, some little time ago on the troopships, and the permission granted these ladies has naturally occasioned some surprise.

The *Indiana* anchored some little distance off the Luneta and when the 14th U.S. Infantry Band gave its concert on the famous driveway, the band of the Kansas boys filled in the intervals with music that was greatly softened by its little trip across the shore breakers.

The former Australian liner *Zelandia* completed her second trip to Manila, this time carrying the two battalions of the Tennessee Regiment. She made a quick trip via Honolulu, passing two of the transports and arriving here on the 29th ult.

But few of the men have been landed and they are not permanently situated. Several new barracks, with raised floors and nipa or thatch roofs, have been built, and every precaution has been taken to insure good sanitation. They are located at Paco and outlying districts and look more comfortable than most of the old quarters. The prisoners in the penitentiary have been at work for weeks making bamboo beds, chairs, screens, pottery ware, and so on, until nearly everything in the way of furniture and fittings is complete.

INSURGENTS IN THE SOUTH.

The local papers continue to print sensational notices of rebel doings in the southern islands, but the information is so contradictory that it must be doubtful. It is reported that the victorious troops outside of Iloilo have set up a

government, elected a President and officers, and declare themselves independent of Aguinaldo, the United States, Spain, or any other country.

Your correspondent was in Batangas some little time ago, where there were several companies of infantry, constantly drilling, throwing up quick trenches and levelling them down again, charging imaginary enemies, and so on. Troops were arriving daily in little coasting steamers and everything was being made ready for an expedition to the south. Finally some boats did set out and their destination was said to be Iloilo and other cities, but the great point of attack was admitted to be Iloilo. If, as Aguinaldo says, these people now fighting are his men, the very men your correspondent saw at Batangas, it seems very unlikely that the above stories can be true.

EXCITABLE INSURGENT PAPERS.

For several days the various papers run by Philipinos in Manila have been printing some what sweeping statements as to their expectations for the future. The *Independencia* is the leader in *extremis*. At this stage of the game it is extremely foolish to indulge in such utterances. The latest article is one that appeared on November 30th. It outlines the actions of the Philippine Commissioner in Paris, where, while waiting for the decision of the Peace Conference, he stated that "the Philipinos will not allow their homes and hearths to be bought and sold like merchandise. They will be ready to fight to the end in defence of their rights. We have said this more than once, and although it has been taken as arrogance on the part of a newly born people we say again that the Philipinos will put up with nothing less than their *Independencia*."

The article asserts throughout that they must have their rights, that they dislike war and hope for peace, but peace only with independence. As your correspondent has indicated, for a long time this feeling has been slowly but surely developing and gaining strength.

The Philippine writer gives credit to the United States for indirect aid, by the blockade of Manila, thus leading up to triumph; but argues that without the help of the United States the victory of the natives would have been just as complete though perhaps a little delayed. This latter statement is greatly exaggerated, for if it had not been for the destruction of the arsenal and naval base at Cavite and the sinking of the ships, to say nothing about bringing Aguinaldo and his leaders back to the Islands, everyone knows that progress would have been at a snail's pace, but as the *Independencia* asserts, there is a possibility that in the course of time, and a long time at that, the natives might have been victorious.

The old question of Spain trying to cede a land that does not belong to her is dragged in again with an addition—"Nor can America make hers that which she has not received from Spain." . . . "If the slave trade was abolished because it meant selling people, why sell countries whose people have the right to object to becoming part of another nation? No; we will never cease to protest against such an absurd sale of our country. The Philipinos have their programme and they will carry it out whatever happens.

"Washington said: 'What matters it to us the paying of a few pounds more or less for pounds of tea? We discuss only our rights.'

"We (Philipinos) likewise—What matters it to us venturing into a war the end of which we cannot foresee? We fight only for our rights."

A likin station in the district of Tai-hsing near Nanking, was raided by a strong band of robbers on the night of the 23rd November and relieved of nearly Tls. 4,000, taxes collected by the deputy in charge. This is the second time within two months that the station has been robbed and it is suspected by the same band. In the first robbery some Tls. 5,000 were taken which the local authorities, military and civil, were compelled to replace in the provincial treasury. A force of 100 militia-men was then detailed to the station as a guard, but it seems that when the robbers made their appearance this time the valiant guards vanished before a single shot was fired by the robbers.—*N. C. Daily News*.

TRADE AND REVENUE OF HONGKONG.

In forwarding the Hongkong Blue Book for 1897 Major-General W. Black submits a brief report on the chief features of the year, from which the following is an extract:—

The revenue collected during the year amounted to \$2,686,914.70, as against \$2,609,878.94 collected in the preceding year, and as against \$1,427,485.79 collected in the year 1887: this shows an increase of revenue during the last ten years of \$1,259,428.91 (or approximating to 100 per cent.), whilst the population, during the same period, has only increased by 35,759 or 16.79 per cent. The expenditure for 1897 showed an increase of \$166,000, among the items being one of \$116,000 expenditure for the Queen's Jubilee celebration. Twenty-one cases of bubonic plague were reported during the year. The trade of 1897 was on the whole unsatisfactory from a local point of view, and more especially in imports, which were adversely affected by the low rate of exchange and the scarcity of the circulating medium, factors which not only restricted business, but greatly curtailed profits. In cotton piece-goods business opened dull, but improved; during the summer a healthier tone prevailed, transactions being above the average of recent years, due possibly to some stimulus derived from the opening of the West River in June, but later in the year an adverse exchange restricted demand, while at the close business came to a standstill owing to the extreme tightness of money. The result was a falling-off in the volume of business as compared with 1896, and this was even more marked in the case of fancy and woollen goods. The trade in English cotton yarns compared favourably with that of the preceding year, and is reported to have been profitable to dealers, but the margin of profit to importers was slender. Compared with the business transacted in 1896, the trade in Indian yarns must be pronounced as unfavourable. The prevalence of plague in Bombay, the prohibition of import into Tongking during three months of the year, the violent fluctuation in rupee exchange, and the serious fall in the dollar prices of yarn during the final quarter of 1897 combined to check the import of the Indian product and promote that of its Japanese rival. Since the opening of the West River to foreign trade on June 3 last, regular communication has been established, and it is hoped that this new outlet will, in course of time, prove of considerable advantage to the commercial interests of the colony.

THE EXTENSION OF HONGKONG.

Renter's Agency learns that the question of the future administration and settlement of the Kowloon extension of Hongkong is now under consideration by the Imperial authorities, who are in possession of the report drawn up by the British Commission which recently completed a tour over the whole of the leased territory. Some apprehension has been expressed in various quarters regarding the native city of Kowloon, which, it is alleged, is the resort of bad characters, and would form a sort of Alsatia within the British sphere. This fear, it is pointed out, is unfounded, and can only be based on a misapprehension. Kowloon City is a small walled city, the majority of whose inhabitants are Chinese soldiers forming the garrison there. In addition to the troops, there are only about 200 civilians in the place. This city is distant about half a mile from the seashore, and its suburbs, which are of course outside the walls, run down to the edge of the harbour opposite to Hongkong. It is in these suburbs that the gambling dens are situated and where the dangerous classes complained of have congregated. These suburbs, being outside the city walls, are by the Convention leased to Great Britain. The extent of the territory leased by the Chinese Government is nearer 400 miles in extent than the 200 originally reported. The total population numbers about 100,000 people, who live in a number of populous villages scattered throughout the country. In many parts the land is well cultivated, and especially in the west. It is very fertile. No difficulty is to be apprehended with the people. The country in parts is said to possess great natural beauty, and to be not

unlike the Highlands of Scotland. It is felt that with the establishment of a British government in the territory there will, as in the case of Hongkong and Singapore, be a large influx of Chinese, and that a speedy development of Kowloon may be expected. One of the early works to be commenced on the administration being taken over by the British will probably be the construction of new roads, and it is hoped that in due time a railway between Kowloon and Canton will be made. A question that still has to be settled is that of the retention of the Chinese Customs stations, and on this matter the opinion is expressed that the representations made on this subject to the British Government by so important a body as the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce, urging the removal of the Chinese Customs, will be considered with due regard to the importance of the matter.

PRINCE HENRY IN HONGKONG.

Prince Henry of Prussia arrived in Hongkong in the *Deutschland* on Saturday. H.E. Sir Henry Blake went off to receive him, and subsequently went over the *Powerful* with him.

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT WUCHOW.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

Wuchow, 1st December.

A serious fire broke out about noon to-day in the east end of the town, outside the city wall, amongst the poorer houses and bamboo mat structures lying at the back of Messrs. Butterfield & Swire's property. It quickly gained ground and by two o'clock was in full blaze. The various manual engines were got to work with commendable promptitude and the steam pumping station also contributed its stream of water; but the latter, owing to the pipes connected with it not being laid in that end of the town, was not of much use. Two men are said to have lost their lives and hundreds are homeless. The foreshore and the piece of property belonging to Messrs. Butterfield's, off which the huts, etc., have been lately cleared, afforded them a place of refuge for their goods and chattels.

Messrs. Bowie & Co.'s Hong was burned, but all other foreigners and their property escaped. Large quantities of kerosine are stored in the shops and houses although the danger of this has been frequently pointed out to the Chinese officials, who, however, content themselves with saying it is not to be stored, but take no means to enforce their decrees. In one instance we believe the fire reached the next house to one where some 500 cases were stored!

NEW STEAMER FOR FORMOSA.

Last week the trial took place of a very creditable addition to the already large number of steamers turned out by local builders. The vessel is named the *Taiwanfoo* and is built for a private company for work on the Formosa coast, where she will shortly be supplemented by several other boats, one of which is under construction by the same builders, Tong Sing and Co., of Wanchai. The *Taiwanfoo* is 112 feet by 18 feet 6 inches by 7 feet 6 inches and will carry 120 tons of cargo on 6 feet 6 inches draft. She is comfortably fitted up with European quarters, saloon, &c., and has accommodation for 28 Chinese passengers. She has a large ballast tank forward by which the vessel may be tipped for crossing bars and on the trial this was filled and emptied in 20 minutes by a special arrangement of pumps designed by Mr. W. S. Bailey, the company's Superintendent. The vessel was built under the inspection of Messrs. Bailey and Le Breton, and the trial proved the work to be thoroughly well done. In order to make the trial severe and approximate the conditions of actual work on the rough coast of Formosa the vessel was taken round Hongkong right outside the islands where a heavy swell was encountered and the boat was tried under sail; with 60 tons of coal on board the log showed a speed of nearly 10 knots.

The party on board consisted of Messrs. Mumford (Lloyd's Surveyor) Harrison, Bailey (Consulting Engineer), Hastings (representing the owners), Captain Mayelsdorf, and other friends. An excellent tiffin to which complete justice was

done, was provided, and the usual toasts were duly honoured. The party returned to port at 6 p.m. after a very pleasant outing.

SERIOUS DISTURBANCE IN QUEEN'S ROAD.

A BLUE-JACKET STABBED.

At the Magistracy on Saturday, before Commander Hastings, five Germans from the men-of-war in the harbour were charged with being implicated in a disturbance which took place the previous evening in Queen's Road Central. Chief Detective-Inspector Hanson acted as interpreter.

There were three charges against Albert Havig, a stoker on the *Gefion*—being drunk and disorderly in Queen's Road Central; assaulting and wounding Zachariah Hall, a gunner in the R.A., in the Land We Live In Hotel, Queen's Road Central; and assaulting Horace Herring, of the Garrison Police.

Hall said that at about a quarter-past nine on Friday night he was in the Land We Live In Hotel with Gunner Dodd. Defendant, who was also in the hotel, came towards them, pointed to a picture on the wall, and said something about the Kaiser. Hall said to the barman, who was a German, that he did not understand his language. Upon this defendant knocked a cigarette out of his mouth. He stood up to defend himself when defendant threw a glass at him, cutting his left cheek, and then about 30 more Germans came at him. He had not spoken to defendant. Two English sailors got him away and washed his cheek.

Gunner Dodd said he was sitting with Hall at a table when defendant came up and acted as Hall had described. After defendant had thrown the glass at Hall defendant's comrades came up to them and knocked them down, tearing off witness's shoulder-strap. Some English sailors from the *Powerful* and *Immortalité* came to their assistance.

An American sailor named William Hartley and the barman corroborated.

Herring also gave evidence, adding that defendant hit him on the head with a bottle.

P.S. Scott said he was in Queen's Road Central on Friday night when he saw a large number of German sailors coming from the east and going towards the Land We Live In Hotel. He ran there too, and he saw defendant outside the door surrounded by a large number of German sailors. Some British blue-jackets and Gunner Hall were also there, and in consequence of what he was told he arrested defendant, with the assistance P.Cs. Grant and Smith. Defendant resisted violently and an attempt was made by the Germans to rescue him.

Defendant said Hall tried to knock a cup out of his hand and said something about—Germans, which annoyed him.

Defendant was fined \$15, or six weeks, for the assault on Hall; the same for the assault on Herring; and \$5 or 14 days for being drunk and disorderly.

H. Gallschalk, of the *Gefion*, was charged with cutting and wounding a British blue-jacket named Davies. He was also charged with stabbing an Indian constable; with attempting to stab P.C. Smith; and with damaging P.C. Smith's clothes.

Davies said he saw a German sailor throw a bottle at a garrison policeman and hit him on the head with it. Then all the German sailors came into the street. The man who had been hit with a bottle pointed out the sailor who had thrown it to the police, who arrested him. There were a lot of Germans about, and defendant was brandishing a knife. A constable attempted to arrest him and as he ran away called upon witness to help him. Witness ran defendant to the Sportsman's Arms, and catching him by the throat pushed him against the wall. Defendant, who had an open knife in his hand, stabbed him behind the left ear.

P. C. Smith said he saw defendant stab Davies. He also stabbed an Indian constable, and cut him (witness) slightly in the cheek, also cutting his tunic. Witness then knocked him down with his truncheon.

Defendant did not dispute what the witnesses had said. He said he did not remember anything. He was full of whisky.

Commander Hastings said it was not a very serious matter for sailors to have a fight when they came on shore and filled themselves up with whisky, but when they came to using knives it was not manly. Defendant would be sentenced to six weeks' imprisonment, with hard labour, for stabbing the bluejacket Davis; six weeks, with hard labour, for stabbing the Indian (these sentences to be consecutive); one month for attempting to stab P.C. Wm. Smith; and be fined \$5 for damage to the policeman's uniform.

Karl Mavis and Albert Kulim were each fined \$10, with the alternative of one month's imprisonment, for assaulting the police; and \$5 or fourteen days' imprisonment for being drunk and disorderly. Alfred Detloo was fined \$10, or a month's imprisonment, for the part he took in the disturbance.

A ROWDY MARINE.

COMMITTED FOR CONTEMPT OF COURT.

At the Magistracy on 6th Dec., before Commander Hastings, Walter Walters, a marine from H.M.S. *Powerful*, was charged with being drunk and disorderly.

P.C. (72) Brazil said:—On the 5th inst. at 11.30 p.m. I was on duty in Praya Central when I saw defendant there. He was drunk and catching hold of a Chinaman by the queue. I cautioned him, telling him to desist, but he took no notice of me, so I caught hold of his hand. He then attacked me. We wrestled and I knocked him down. Two Indian policemen came to my assistance and we took him to the Police Station. On the way he resisted violently.

Inspector Gillies said that when brought into the charge room at the Central Police Station defendant resisted violently.

During the hearing of the case defendant behaved in anything but a becoming manner. He asked the witnesses all sorts of absurd questions, and called out in a loud voice, "Bring that Chinaman here, bring him here."

When informed that he would be fined \$15, or six weeks, for being drunk and disorderly,

Defendant said—I am not going to pay.

The Magistrate informed him he could go to gaol and do six weeks.

Defendant replied "All right."

The Magistrate—If you use any more insulting language I will put you in gaol for another fortnight.

Defendant—All right; you can do so.

The Magistrate—You are sentenced to 14 days' hard labour for using insulting language in court.

HON. T. H. WHITEHEAD ON THE POSITION IN CHINA.

Two letters by the Hon. T. H. Whitehead on the position in China are published in the San Francisco *Bulletin* of the 23rd October under the following headings:—"Russian aggression in China. T. H. Whitehead writes of the Far Eastern question. Since 1895 Russian diplomatic successes in China have been remarkable. Japanese-Chinese War precipitated and changed the state of affairs. Mr. Chamberlain at Birmingham truly said that the situation in China was most unsatisfactory. Unless Russia is stopped it is only a question of time when British interests will be jeopardized." The letters are as follows:—

Hongkong, 5th August, 1898.

China and Africa are destined to play an important part in the world in the twentieth century, and events in the Far East now threaten to move with much greater rapidity than they have ever done in the past. The vast territories and teeming populations in Asia must in the natural trend of things come under modern civilization, the very best of material and physical force is waiting to be utilized, and weighty developments are not far off. We on the spot cannot begin to realize what great uses the dominating races will make out of the two continents, more particularly China—uses which will be a lively, yea refreshing, variety upon the squatting and colonization of the North American continent and the Australias.

Since 1895 Russian diplomatic successes in the Far East have been phenomenal and through French and German assistance have attained heights seldom reached. It, however, appears

doubtful, the gain so far being mainly Russian, whether even the sagacious Muscovite will be able to retain a monopoly of French aid and thereby hold on at the altitude to which the Great White Bear has so suddenly risen. The Japanese-Chinese war precipitated affairs and has brought about an entirely new state of matters for which Russia was not prepared. Rapidly as she has acted and can act on occasions, events have moved too fast for her; the completion of the Trans-Siberian railway will not be a *fait accompli* for some years to come. Yet no power has realized so completely the vastly changed position in the Far East since the Japanese-Chinese war as Russia has done. The extraordinary brain power in Russian statesmanship may be difficult to locate, but nevertheless, Russia has already acquired and secured prizes of no ordinary magnitude and richness, and without drawing the sword. In the matter of astuteness in empire making and expansion the Bismarck of 1860-1880 must take a back seat in competition with Muscovite diplomacy and statesmanship. Russia, assisted by France and Germany, deterred and prevented the Japanese in 1895 from entering into possession of the fruits of their victory, coerced her into retroceding the Liaotung Peninsula to China, and thus "save China" from Japanese domination, not in the interests or for the benefit of the Chinese, but in order that Russia, France, and Germany might help themselves to a no lean slice of Chinese territory, as they have already most effectively done, notwithstanding reiterated British protests. In the interests of the Chinese and the Anglo-Saxon race, it is a matter for great regret that up to the present time the Dowager Empress of China, Li Hung-chang, and Russian diplomacy should have so completely over-matched and out-distanced British statesmanship. The victory has been complete, and assuredly our diplomacy has been worsted. The slow-moving British government have not given evidence that they yet begin to realize the vastly changed position of affairs in China; they seem reluctant to believe and loathe to recognize that the situation is seriously altering daily; they have protested that, "under all circumstances, even at the cost of war, the open-door policy and treaty rights would be upheld; that no spheres of influence would be tolerated; that the integrity of the Chinese empire would be maintained; that we must prevent it falling into ruins, invite it into the paths of reform, assist it to perfect its defenses, increase its commercial prosperity, etc." These and such like protestations have been reiterated, but all in vain. England has not extended any moral support or substantial backing to the notoriously weak, corrupt, and effete Chinese government—a government which is tottering, utterly hopeless and helpless from within, and equally helpless and hopeless without foreign assistance. The maintenance and the integrity of the derelict and putrid imperial government of China cannot be accomplished by loud wordy protestations or by platitudes, however high sounding. Herculean force is absolutely essential. Cabinet Ministers have indulged in irritating statements and so far they do not seem prepared to back the same up by action. Russia is already in possession of Manchuria—a white man's land and climate, with a population of upwards of twenty million people, a most virile race, possessed of all the best qualities for the making of an army and unlimited as regards numbers; Germany is in possession of Kiaochau; England gratuitously recognized Shantung province as within the sphere of German influence, which irreparably neutralizes the value of Weihaiwei, while France already occupies Kwongchowwan, has acquired a railway concession to Nanning, in Yunnan, etc.—and Britain, yes Great Britain, it is sad to think that notwithstanding her oft-declared policy of "the integrity of China" and her big talk of stopping grabbing, has herself grabbed and "leased" Weihaiwei and 200 square miles of territory at Kowloon, opposite Hongkong. The latter Lord Salisbury's government has, however, reserved that the walled city of Kowloon shall continue under Chinese jurisdiction, doubtless to save Chinese "face," and thus permit of the corrupt Mandarin setting up within British territory an *imperium in imperio*.

Anything more monstrous, ludicrous, humiliating, or imbecile it is impossible to conjecture. The unionist government had made a melancholy mess, our morale and prestige have gone, and our officials appear to have gone one step further, which cannot but weaken British influence in China, though it is doubtful if that be now within the bounds of possibility. It is understood that England, in consideration of the so-called rectification of the boundaries of Hongkong, has promised China liberal treatment in revenue matters. Consequently the Chinese government has opened its mouth very wide and asked for numerous rights and privileges:

1.—To open and establish a Chinese customs office in the midst of Hongkong for the collection of opium and other duties.

2.—The Commissioner of Chinese Customs in Hongkong to be officially recognized by the British Government.

3.—The erection and continuance of Chinese customs stations for the collection of duties within British territory.

4.—The Chinese revenue cruisers (officered and manned possibly or probably by Russians or French) to be at liberty to visit the waters (British) of Hongkong at any hour of the day or night.

5.—The special use of two wharves or jetties in the Hongkong harbour opposite the junk anchorage.

6.—The right at any time to examine the Hongkong opium farmers' warehouses, stock of opium, books, etc., and a great deal more—too much to here detail.

Before agreeing to grant any one of these concessions it might be interesting, if not instructive, were the British officials to ascertain the exact nature of the privileges which Russia, Germany, and France extends to the Chinese Government in re the collection of Chinese revenues and duties at Port Arthur and Talienwan at Kiaochau and at Kwongchowwan respectively. The British Government might just as well permit France to establish French custom houses at Dover, Folkestone, or in the Thames!

A preliminary contract for the extension of the Shanhaikwan-Newchwang (the latter is a treaty port) railway, between the Chinese Government railway officials and the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank and Jardine, Matheson & Co., was signed in June last, but so far the Russian Government has succeeded in preventing the Chinese Government from ratifying the said contract or agreement. In his protest—which was one of the strongest possible nature—to the Tsungli Yamen, M. Pavloff, the Russian Chargé d'Affaires, quoted section 3 of the St. Petersburg convention, and pointed out that the proposed railway loan comes under the provisions of the said convention and concluded his protest with the words, "A thousand times ten thousand times it cannot be agreed to."

Early this year Russian agents commenced negotiations with the notorious Sheng Taotai, the director-general of Imperial railways, in re the contract for the Peking-Hankow railway, which has now been transferred by the so-called "Belgian Syndicate" to the Russo-Chinese Bank, alias the Russian Government. The money required to build the railway will be Russian-French, and the real owner of the line will be the Russo-Chinese Bank, who will work and control it. The contract has not yet been ratified, but in face of these facts it is impossible to realize the grounds on which Mr. Curzon can regard China's assurances respecting the Yangtze as definite and binding, or how the Chinese Government can allege to our minister in Peking that Russia has no interest in the Peking-Hankow line.

Lord Salisbury's declaration in the beginning of this week, that England was prepared to support China against any power committing an act of aggression in consequence of China's having availed of British assistance in the construction of railways or other public works, was most refreshing and welcome. Britain's attitude hitherto *vis-a-vis* the China question has been feeble in the extreme—impossible by any process of reasoning to dignify it by the name of a policy. If, however, the Unionist Government have at last decided upon a definite policy, we earnestly hope they will stick to their guns, but their indecision and inaction has been

fraught with untoward consequences to British interests. Russia, in the meantime, has taken full advantage of England's feebleness, appears not to be satisfied with the acquisition of Manchuria, and her latest move on the board is an attempt, as audacious as it is courageous, to seize and secure the heart of China through becoming the owners and having the control of the Peking-Hankow railway, which would ultimately mean the ousting and the freezing out of Great Britain from the Yangtze valley. How much longer and how much further Muscovite aggression will be allowed to go remains to be seen.

Negotiations had been proceeding satisfactorily between a substantial British syndicate, Sheng Taotai, director-general of Imperial railways, and the Tsungli Yamen for a railway concession from Canton to British Kowloon, opposite Hongkong, until two weeks ago, when the French Minister interfered and protested against the granting or leasing of any such concession—the French evidently presuming that Kwangtung province is within their sphere of influence. The concession or lease is shelved for the present, as no doubt the Tsungli Yamen deem it inexpedient to move while the French protest remains in force, which is, no doubt, supported by the Russian Minister.

It is most essential for the preservation of Great Britain's most important interest in China (80 per cent of the whole foreign trade) that the Celestial Empire should not fall under the dominion of Russia, and consequently one of the most grave questions of the day is whether it would be judicious for England, single-handed, to bolster up and defend the maintenance and integrity of the rotten, corrupt, and indefensible Chinese Government.

T. H. W.

P. S.—Since writing the foregoing information has reached me from two thoroughly independent and absolutely reliable sources that the Russian admiral was in receipt of definite instructions from St. Petersburg to withdraw the Russian ships from Port Arthur in March last—at the time of the British naval demonstration in the Gulf of Pechili—if the British Government had insisted upon the withdrawal of the Russian fleet from that port. Russia no doubt, puffed up by her successful bluff in Port Arthur, has now bearded the lion in his den by acquiring as a naval base Rabalta, in the Straits of Babel Mandeb, immediately opposite Perim, which base, if allowed to be fortified, will completely neutralize our present commanding position at Aden and Perim in the Red Sea. Ichabod, Ichabod, our glory has departed!

Why, oh why, did we decry
The mailed fist in China's eye,
Swear that our rights we would stand by
At risk of war our foes defy?
And then when Russia, slick and sly,
Had done us with a thumping lie,
Why, oh why, take Weihaiwei—
Then swear we meant no business—why?

Hongkong, 13th June.

Mr. Chamberlain, in his famous speech at Birmingham last month, truly said that the situation in China was most unsatisfactory, and there is no doubt that it really is so and is becoming more dangerous as time advances. If Russian predominance in China is permitted to progress at anything like the rate it has advanced in the last few years it is only a question of time when British interests in the Far East will be surely seriously jeopardized. Subsequent to Mr. Chamberlain's speech Lord Salisbury said that "The policy of Great Britain was not changed, and consists in maintaining the Chinese Empire." The policy may have been as described, but it was not in action and has not yet given evidence that it is in action. What reason is there for hope as to the future of British interests in the Far East when Lord Salisbury can gravely utter "that he was unable to believe in the collapse of a nation of 400,000 of brave people?" Coming from any ordinary authority such an utterance could only be regarded as inane drivel. Can this result from ignorance or actual incompetence to realize the true situation? Pitiable indeed is the condition of foreign affairs in England, and still more pitiable must the ship of state continue to

drift if no one competent man can be found to understand and grapple with the dangers which are steadily increasing and are destined to go on increasing. It was known throughout the world at the moment when Lord Salisbury's utterance was made that the Chinese Empire was having fat bits torn out of its body by any one who elected to annex a piece. Is Lord Salisbury the only statesman in Europe who does not now know that a hundred blue-jackets properly armed and led could take any sea-port in China without any great effort and probably without the loss of a single man? There is the so-called Imperial Government of China, but it is rotten, corrupt, and effete—utterly helpless and hopeless as regards reform from within and without foreign aid. This has been its actual state for many years past. True, there is the Chinese Empire—not a nation, but a geographical expression—and the Chinese people, many scores of millions of the most virile race and possessed of all the best qualities requisite for the making of an army, unlimited as regards numbers, and physically unsurpassed in the world. If Russia is permitted to make use of this splendid material, and that it is available and waiting to be utilized there is no shadow of a doubt, the most disastrous results to the Anglo-Saxon race must ensue. Manchuria is a white man's land and climate, and has a population of upwards of 20,000,000 of people, which territory is already under Russian protection and control. About Vladivostok, in the Amoor district, and in Manchuria, there are already upwards of 100,000 Russian soldiers, and this army is being gradually increased by fresh arrivals of troops from Europe every month. Why, wherefor, and for what purpose?

From the perusal of the Blue Book laid before the Houses of Parliament in April last our statesmen appear to have been amazingly guileless, sadly deficient in foresight and lacking entirely in determination and action. The communications exchanged are simply astounding—brimful with evidence of Russian duplicity and bad faith. Lord Salisbury demanded Talienwan as a treaty port, but dropped the demand as soon as Russia opposed it. Our Government's so-called policy—"open door," "equality of opportunity," "maintenance of our treaty rights even at the cost of war"—has completely failed, and we have been diplomatically worsted. We protested needlessly when too late. We were forced at the last moment to seize Weihaiwei as a "set-off" to the gains of Russia. The Unionist Government has pursued a course which has placed England in hostility to Russia, by drifting and through want of decisive action we have obtained the means of quarreling; not the means of emerging victorious from any quarrel. The point of vantage acquired will cost a great deal of money before it is of any use, and the value of Weihaiwei will depend entirely upon the use to which in future years it may be put. The deliberately gratuitous promise given by Lord Salisbury's Government that "there is no intention to call in question Germany's rights in the Province of Shantung" irreparably neutralizes the value of Weihaiwei, inasmuch as we thereby deprive ourselves of all local supplies, including coal, which abounds in the province, and the right to connect Weihaiwei and Tientsin by railway. Port Arthur will speedily be connected by rail with the immense natural resources of Manchuria, with the Russian base on the Amoor river and with European Russia through Siberia. Port Arthur will soon, too, via Shanhaikwan, have railway communication with Tientsin and Peking. To acquire Weihaiwei and then to have thrown away all the advantages naturally attaching to its possession is, to those who understand the situation, utterly unintelligible and as incomprehensible as it is bewildering.

If a solid understanding and defensive alliance could be arranged between the component parts of the Anglo-Saxon people, the human race would be enriched and the sun would rise upon a nobler world. It would mean open commerce and trade on equal terms to the whole universe—the greatest prosperity and the greatest happiness to the greatest number.

Permit me to urge upon you the necessity of communicating at your early convenience with the powers that be as to the steadily increasing

peril by which British interests in the Far East are being completely surrounded and undetermined.

T. H. WHITEHEAD.

THE MUSE OF STONECUTTERS.

She haunted me to Singapore
My side she never left
"Why leave," she cried, "Celestial shore?
"Why leave Hongkong bereft?
"Thy little house on verdant isle
"Relapses into prose;
"Thy poetry's fire is quenched awhile,
"No inspiration knows.
"Come eastward," once again she cried,
"And dwell alone once more."
"Not if I know it," I replied,
"I've other schemes in store."
"The scissor grinder weeps for thee,
"The caterpillar moans,
"And little birds on every tree
"Shed tears that melt the stones."

And thus she ever calls to me
And beckons with her hand:
One day she'll drag me 'cross the sea
To perish in the land.

BLOBS.

TEBRAU PLANTING CO., LIMITED.

Messrs. John D. Humphreys & Son, the General Managers, have received the following report from Mr. M. Larken for the six months ending the 31st October, 1898:—

Gambier Plantations.—I regret to say the price has been extremely low during the whole period, gradually receding from \$5.45 per picul in May, to \$5.05 in October, and the profit for the six months only amounts to \$605.23, less than \$1 per picul on the Pls. 656.86 sold. The best returns comparatively have been from the new plantations purchased at the beginning of the year. Milburn, which is our chief plantation, and should give as much as all the others together, has been very unfortunate, for the plants were attacked by a kind of caterpillar that destroyed a large amount of leaf; however, they have now disappeared, and a fresh crop of leaves has come on, so I hope it will show better results for the future.

We have had an unusually hot and dry season, which no doubt partly accounts for the small amount of crop.

Mount Austin Plantation.—All is going on well here, I am glad to say. We have planted up the first block of 150 acres, and are now going on with the second. The young coffee planted out six months ago is looking extremely well, many of the plants being 2 to 3 feet high. The young para rubber plants are also growing extremely well. We have had considerably more sickness during these six months than we had at first, owing no doubt to the excessive, unusual, and long continued periods of intensely hot weather. We have often had 30 per cent. of the coolies off work, but no deaths, I am glad to say. My assistant, Mr. Robinson, has suffered a great deal from fever, and I have had two or three attacks myself, but on the whole, I consider we have been very fortunate, considering the usual disastrous outbreaks of fever and dysentery that accompany the opening of new plantations in the Malay peninsula, Borneo, and Sumatra.

A Russian officer and three soldiers arrived at Nagasaki from Port Arthur on the 25th November by the *Nijni Novgorod* to receive treatment at the Russian hospital at that port. The men are suffering from bites inflicted by a supposed mad dog. The officer was severely bitten through the hand, while the soldiers were bitten on the legs.—*Nagasaki Press*.

The post of Sanitary Inspector at Shanghai having fallen vacant the Municipal Council are of opinion that it is essentially necessary that the man appointed to the office should be thoroughly and practically conversant with the general principles of modern sanitation; as the present Inspector's staff does not include anyone possessing this qualification it was decided that a properly trained Sanitary Inspector be obtained from England.

LORD CHARLES BERESFORD AT KIUKIANG.

Kiukiang, 25th November.

Lord Charles Beresford arrived here yesterday on the *Kutwo*. He came ashore to the Consulate where a deputation of British and American residents were waiting to interview him. Mr. Consul Johnson introduced as the deputation Mr. F. du Jardin of Jardine, Matheson & Co., Mr. A. Smith of Butterfield and Swire, Mr. F. D. Clindening, the Doctor of the Port, Rev. D. W. Nichols, and Rev. E. S. Little; after which Mr. Little presented the following address to Lord Charles, who replied to the same and in the ensuing conversation went carefully into all the points raised.

He promised to pay special attention to any case of opposition on the part of the Chinese officials to legitimate developments of trade and missionary work. Lord Charles impressed everybody by the care with which he entered into the subjects presented and the grasp he evidently had of the situation in China. When he gets home and makes his voice heard things ought to move on a bit in this country.

When the deputation retired a body of Customs officials waited upon him, after which he left on the same steamer for Hankow.

THE ADDRESS.

Kiukiang, Central China,
25th November.

My Lord,—As Chairman of the deputation of British and other residents appointed to wait upon you I beg to present to your Lordship this expression of the pleasure your visit to this port affords us and to invoke your powerful influence at home both in Parliament and with the Government with a view to the extension of the privileges of British residents in Central China.

British subjects desire:—

- 1.—Full liberty to establish in the interior manufacturing and other industrial concerns, particularly in tea growing districts.
- 2.—To open and work mines on equally favourable terms with the natives.
- 3.—That the rights of Christian missionaries and their converts in the interior and elsewhere be fully recognised.
- 4.—That ample protection be accorded British subjects in all legitimate enterprises in China.
- 5.—That special attention be given to the French and Russian activity in Central and Western China specially in view of the fact that an armed French force is at present in the West and that a railway is now being constructed opening up direct communication between Central China and the Russian sphere in the North.
- 6.—That a British naval force be stationed permanently in the Yangtze as a demonstration of the intention to protect her interests.
- 7.—That Hunan be opened to trade and missionary work which shall have the fullest protection throughout the Province and that a British Consul be appointed to reside at Changsha, the capital.
- 8.—That an understanding be arrived at with the United States of America by which both nations may take concerted action against the closing of any doors to missionary work and trade now open in the Empire and that the two nations re-open any doors that may have been closed.

The British community resident in this part of the Yangtze Valley in the centre of the section of the Empire specially guaranteed by China to Great Britain urge a close attention on the part of the British Government to the development of this important "sphere of British influence," for the possibilities and resources are almost unlimited.

The deputation confidently anticipate that the result of your mission to the Far East will promote a still more rapid opening up of this part of the Empire of China to Christianity and all forms of Western civilization.—I am, my Lord for and on behalf of the community, your obedient servant,

(Signed) EDWARD S. LITTLE,
Chairman of the Deputation.

To Rear Admiral, Rt. Hon. Lord Charles Beresford, C.B.
—*Mercury*.

THE NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

The following is a summary of the report on the half-year from the 1st April to the 30th September last, submitted to the general meeting of shareholders of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha held on the 25th November:—

The contract with the Formosan Government for the Formosan service expired on the 31st March last, and was renewed for another year.

On the European line, 11 steamers were dispatched from Japan and 8 arrived from Europe during the period under review. Cargo was obtained in large quantities at the Straits Settlements and Colombo for the outward voyage and freight was maintained at fairly remunerative rates by the conference of shipowners. Owing, however, to the American-Spanish war, the cargo at these places showed a great decrease for two months from the latter part of July. Freights homeward have decreased since July in consequence of the general depression of trade in Japan. From October there was a tendency for the import cargo to increase in view of the new Customs Tariffs coming into force from January next. New steamers for this line having been completed, the service was made fortnightly, commencing with the dispatch of the *Kanagawa-maru*, which left Yokohama on the 14th May. Of the 12 new steamers for this line, the *Kanagawa*, *Hakata*, *Kawachi*, *Wakasa*, *Kamakura*, *Sanuki*, *Inaba*, *Tamba*, and *Bingo* arrived early in the period under review. The *Hitachi*, which was built at Nagasaki, was completed in August, the *Sado* arrived from England in September, while the *Shinano*, which is being built in England, is expected to be completed in May or June next, and another steamer, to be used as a reserve vessel, is expected to be under way for Japan about October next year.

On the Trans-Pacific line the outward cargo showed a serious decrease in consequence of the American-Spanish war, and less tea was exported owing to the imposition of a tax in America. Notwithstanding that the owners of the various steamers running on this line entered into a conference, the estimated revenue was not realized in consequence of the great falling off in outward cargo. On the homeward voyage, on the other hand, every steamer was fully loaded with raw cotton, flour, iron, and numerous other goods.

On the Australian line import cargo gradually increased despite the economical depression in Japan. Of the three vessels ordered for this line, the *Kasuga* arrived in September from England and two others are expected to arrive shortly. The use of these new steamers will naturally result in an increase of expenditure, and it is uncertain as yet whether the revenue will increase in proportion. Provision is, however, being made for the maintenance of the line.

On the Bombay run, the *Wakasa*, *Kagoshima* and *Tenshin* were added to the number of regular vessels employed, owing to the large quantities of raw cotton accumulating at Bombay for Japan.

In consequence of an increase in the demand for railway materials, labourers, and provisions at Vladivostok, the service on the Vladivostok line, which has hitherto been monthly, was made tri-weekly.

The company carries forward the large amount of ¥580,000 to meet any losses incurred in consequence of trade depression.

A summarized statement of the company's accounts for the half-year is appended:—

RECEIPTS.	
Net Profit	¥1,409,758
Amount brought over from last account	126,058
Total	¥1,535,816
EXPENDITURE.	
Added to reserve	¥ 70,488
Bonuses to directors and auditors	42,292
In paying dividend (equal to 8 per cent.)	836,000
Carried forward to next account	587,036
Total	¥1,535,816

A telegram has been received at Shanghai from Nanking reporting the failure of one of the largest and oldest banks of that city. The liabilities are reported to amount to over TL. 400,000.—*N.C. Daily News*.

THE PUNJOM MINES.

NEW LEASE GRANTED.

Kuala Lipis, 22nd November.

A new lease to the Punjom Mining Company, which has hitherto been working without a direct title from the State, has just been issued by Government. The document, which is the result of protracted negotiations, conveys mining rights over an area of fifty square miles, for a period of fifty years terminating in 1948, on payment of a merely nominal annual rental. Among the important clauses is one dealing with the labour question. It is provided that the Company must continuously employ for mining purposes not less than one labourer for every ten acres of land leased. In the event of this provision not being carried out literally, the Company has the option of employing the equivalent of such labour in machinery and local supervision, the working value of an Asiatic mining labourer being, under the lease, reckoned as equal to \$100, *per annum*, and in machinery one horsepower being taken as equivalent to 25 labourers. Another clause provides for the exemption of the lessees from the payment of all duties or taxes now, or hereafter to become, payable in Pahang, excepting duties on opium, spirits, and tobacco imported, which will have to be paid at whatever rates may be in force from time to time. The land leased cannot be used for any purpose other than mining, and operations connected with mining. On its part, the Company has surrendered the old concession document, which was given to it by the Sultan prior to the advent of the British, and which provided for mining as well as planting rights. The Sultan, however, wanted and the Company agreed to pay, a royalty of ten *per cent.* on gold exported, whereas the Government now contents itself with a moiety of that levy. During the past ten years Punjom has been working with only partial success. It is now to be hoped that, with a new lease granted, a new manager appointed, new capital subscribed, and a new year approaching, a new and prosperous era has also dawned on a company that has displayed a perseverance which commands respect, and deserves better results than those which have so far crowned its efforts.—*Straits Times.*

POLO.

TOURNAMENT FOR H.R.H. PRINCE HENRY OF PRUSSIA'S CUP.

The first game in the polo tournament for a cup most graciously presented by His Royal Highness Prince Henry of Prussia was played on Friday, 2nd Dec., the teams being the Royal Navy and the King's Own:—

ROYAL NAVY.	KING'S OWN.
Comdr. The Hon. G. Hardinge	Capt. Laurie
Capt. The Hon. Hedworth-Lambton	" Paton
Comdr. Ethelston	" McLachlan
Mr. Lawford	Major Gawne

Play commenced at 4-15 o'clock. Laurie quickly got away with the ball and, the Naval back being ably ridden off by Gawne, he took it down the ground and scored first goal for the King's Own. The ball was again thrown in and for some time the Navy held their own, but McLachlan, who had been riding hard and hitting straight, got his chance, and Gawne aiding him in riding off Hardinge, he scored. The Navy team now made their effort; Lambton time after time made good runs, hitting hard and true; his side backed him effectually, and Laurie, missing a backhand at a critical time, Ethelston scored. Next McLachlan made a subsidiary, the ball passing only a few inches from the goal post. After some rather even play Gawne secured the ball and by a hard and well directed stroke placed it between the goal posts. Lawford got away with the ball at the throw in and Ethelston backed him up well, the result of the combination being a second goal for the Navy. Paton, who throughout played a sound and unselfish game, sticking to his No. 3 of the opposing team, now made a neat run down the ground, but the ball bumping, he lost command; he, however, rode off his man, and Laurie, after a tussle with Hardinge, secured a goal. McLachlan added another shortly before the call of time, the score at end of the first half standing:

The King's Own 5 goals and 3 subsidiaries, Royal Navy 2 goals and 1 subsidiary.

The second half showed much more even play. The Navy team settled down better to their work, keeping their places well instead of riding too close behind each other. Lambton played exceedingly well, hitting always straight for the goal, Hardinge supported his side admirably, and Lambton and Ethelston were generally in the right places. Their ponies, however, were slow and under the circumstances great credit is due to the team for the plucky fight they made and indeed for putting a team at all into the tournament at such short notice. The King's Own made one more goal, the result of a good combination which we would like to see more often practised. The King's Own team were going strong for the Navy goal when Hardinge saved, secured the ball, and racing away with it threatened to turn the tables. Paton closed in turn, got possession, and centred the ball to Laurie, who was immediately tackled by Ethelston but managed to hit a goal. Score at close of match: K.O.R. 6 goals and 5 subs., R.N. 2 goals and 1 sub.

The victory was most popular. The game was witnessed by a large number of spectators, among whom we were happy to welcome H.E. Sir Henry Blake and Miss Blake and hope to see them frequently patronizing the noble game. Captain Turner of the 13th Bengal Cavalry, a visitor, was umpire and was assisted by Captain Burney, R.A. Col. The O'Gorman kept time.

SECOND ROUND.

The second match in the polo tournament for the cup presented by H.R.H. Prince Henry of Prussia was played on Monday, the 5th inst., between The Civilians and The Club and proved a most exciting and close contest. Play was not commenced until 4.30, being delayed beyond the advertised hour by a prominent member of the firm of Jardine and Matheson.

The Club secured possession of the ball at the throw-in, Des Vœux attacking the Civilian goal very strongly. Hastings cleared, but the ball was returned quickly by Nugent, some close play then resulting. Hastings and Landale repulsed this attack and passed to May, who was playing in most dashing style, and took the ball up the ground. Potts's attentions to Nugent were becoming very marked, and this aided his team considerably, for Nugent was playing a very sound game, and when left alone always hit hard, clean back-handers. Des Vœux was playing brilliantly, but was obliged to devote himself too much to the defence to be able to make the most of the chances to score. After several ineffectual efforts, May and Hastings, by some combined play, made a very pretty run and then unselfishly leaving the ball and riding their opposing numbers, gave Landale a chance for a clean straight shot, by which he landed a goal. Shortly after this the Club equalized matters by Jeffreys scoring. At half time the score stood: Civilians 1 goal and 1 subsidiary, Club 1 goal.

The second quarter was chiefly marked by some pretty runs by Landale and Des Vœux, but the play was more even. The Civilian defence was strong and repulsed the Club's attacks, though Loring and Jeffreys were more in their places and were ably seconding Des Vœux' efforts. Landale at last got through the Club combination and scored another goal, with which the match closed. Score: Civilians, 2 goals 1 sub.; Club, 1 goal. Teams:—

CIVILIANS.	CLUB.
Mr. Landale	4 Mr. Nugent
Mr. Hastings	3 Mr. Loring
Hon. F. H. May	2 Capt. Des Vœux
Mr. Potts	1 Major Jeffreys

The victory was a most popular one. The civilians were wearing old Erin's colours and the presence on the ground of our new Governor, an Irishman with the national taste for all games and especially anything connected with horses, makes us hope that a new era is opened for polo and that more members may be added to the club. Hongkong used to be a great racing centre and every one rode and drove while for this tournament there was difficulty in finding four members for the Civilian team.

H. R. H. Prince Henry was on the ground and took much interest in the competition for his cup. He played in the intervening quarter

and it is hoped that every polo day will find him and some of his officers in the saddle.

Capt. Turner, assisted by Capt. Laurie, acted as umpire. Major Coe was the official time-keeper.

THIRD ROUND.

The third round in this tournament was played on Wednesday in the presence of a large number of spectators, including H.E. the Governor and H.R.H. Prince Henry of Prussia, when the King's Own met the Royal Artillery. The teams were as follows:—

KING'S OWN.	R.A.
Captain Laurie (back)	Captain Burney (back)
Captain Paton (3)	Captain Simmonds (3)
Captain McLachlan (2)	Mr. Hudson (2)
Major Gawne (1)	Captain Thwaites (1)

Immediately the ball was thrown in Hudson got possession and the R.A. rushed the ball up to the King's Own goal. Laurie cleared, however, but the relief was not for long, for Burney crowned a fine run by placing the ball between the posts. The R.A. continued to have the best of the game, playing well together, while their opponents seemed hardly to have found their places. From a throw in Simmonds smartly got possession and made a good run down the ground, the ball going behind. Laurie and Paton, by good play worked it up the ground again, the ball being left dead almost in front of the R.A. goal. Hudson cleared with a strong stroke and Simmonds carried the ball down the ground with a fine run, scoring a subsidiary. From this point the game, which had been all in favour of the R.A., assumed a different character, the King's Own suddenly pulling themselves together and playing up with much better combination and more confidence. Paton and McLachlan made a fine dash for the R.A. goal, and a moment later Paton was again very dangerous, Burney saving his goal well. But Paton was not to be denied and, getting possession from a throw in, placed the ball beautifully in front of goal, enabling Laurie to score. A great deal of very fast and even play ensued, and presently McLachlan and Laurie carried the ball down to the R.A. goal and Laurie, leaving the ball and riding off Burney, enabled Gawne to score a goal. With another subsidiary from Paton the first quarter closed, the score being King's Own 2 goals and 1 sub., R.A. 1 goal and 1 sub.

The second quarter was remarkable for the still further improvement in the play of the King's Own. Every member of the team was seen at his best. They played well together, and the hitting, especially that of Paton, was clear and strong and always in the direction of the goal. Paton was soon again in evidence and scored a sub. The R.A., fighting hard and well for victory, made a tremendous rush for the King's Own goal, which they narrowly missed capturing, but only a sub. was scored. Then in the middle of the ground McLachlan got possession and getting clear away placed a goal to the credit of his side after a very pretty run. There was no further score and the match resulted in a victory for the King's Own by 3 goals and 2 subs. to 1 goal and 2 subs.

The game throughout was very fast. The hitting power of the R.A. team, taken as a whole, was not equal to that of their adversaries and we suspect that the King's Own, having probably more opportunity, have put in more practice.

The final match will be played to-day, at 4 p.m., when the Civilians meet the King's Own. The following are the teams:—

THE KING'S OWN.	CIVILIANS.
Capt. Laurie	4 Mr. Landale
" Paton	3 " Hastings
" McLachlan	2 Hon. F. H. May
Major Gawne	1 Mr. Potts

Col. Rowlandson and the officers of The King's Own will be "at home" on the ground.

The *N. C. Daily News* of the 2nd December says:—We mentioned some days ago that the steamer *Kenmore*, which was originally reported a total wreck in the Red Sea when outward bound from New York, had been floated and was repairing; we now learn from the agents, Messrs. Carlowitz & Co., that she is expected here in about three weeks' time. It is most important that her cargo for Japan should reach there, before the new tariff comes into force, on the 1st of January next.

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

RACES FOR THE COMMODORE'S CUPS,
DECEMBER 3rd.

The second races of the series for the cups presented by the Commodore of the Club (Hon. F. H. May) took place on Saturday last in light and very uncertain airs. The course for both classes was round the Channel Rocks and the North Fairway buoy, starboard. At the time of starting (2.15 p.m.) there was a westerly breeze in the west end of the harbour, and an easterly breeze in the east end, whilst on the starting line and in its vicinity it was almost a flat calm.

Maid Marian and Bonito were the wrong side of the line when the starting gun went and profited thereby, for the rest of the fleet after starting hauled a little to the northward, where there seemed to be a little air of wind, and got becalmed, while the Maid and Bonito were favoured by a westerly puff on re-crossing the line which, trending to the southward, carried them right past the becalmed fleet and placed them in a leading position. The helmsman of Maid Marian, mindful of the last Club race of last season, when exactly the same thing happened, kept away to the southward and carried the favouring breeze with him till he met the easterly breeze off Meyer's Kerosine Works. The times of rounding the Channel Rocks were:—

Helmsmen.	H. M. S.
Maid Marian (Mr. J. Hastings)	3 12 50
Sybil (Mr. Bannerman)	3 16 00
Bonito (Major Coe)	3 18 32
Erica (Mr. Denison)	3 25 05
Active (Hon. H. E. Pollock)	not timed
Chanticleer (Mr. Tomes)	not timed

On the return journey the leading boat carried the easterly breeze much further than the others and thus strung out a long lead before she met the westerly wind, and the rest of the boats being a long way behind and it being clearly impossible for the second class boats to cover the course before dark, the Commodore shortened the course and made the race finish with the round complete at the starting line. The times of finishing were:—

Helmsmen.	H. M. S.	
Maid Marian	4 19 00	first
Sybil	4 29 53	second
Bonito	4 39 10	third
Erica	4 59 34	
Active	5 1 40	
Chanticleer	5 14 40	

In the second class, the starters and times of rounding the Channel Rocks and of finishing were as follows. Helmsmen as in the first class had a real bad time with baffling and uncertain airs:—

Helmsmen.	Channel Rocks.	Finish.
Dart (Dr. F. W. Clark)	3 10 29	4 42 40 1st.
Princess (Mr. Loring, R.A.)	3 22 25	not timed
She (Mr. Hazell)	3 23 05	5 24 30 3rd.
Ladybird (Commander Hastings)	not timed	5 14 48 2nd.
Payne (Captain H. B. des Vaux)	5 21 45	
Doris	not timed	

The final races will be sailed on the 17th inst. The marks earned so far are as follows:—

A class.	B class.
Maid Marian .. 14	Ladybird .. 14
Erica .. 10	Dart .. 10
Sybil .. 5	She .. 5
Bonito .. 1	Princess .. 1

THIRD CLUB RACE, 6TH DECEMBER.

Light and variable winds were again in evidence, being east when the starting gun went for the A class, changing near the starting line to west a few minutes after. The Active and the Maid Marian got mixed up with a junk at the start, the former having her bobstay carried away and the Maid her pretty nose spoilt. They quickly got clear again and went on with the others.

The course was: Kowloon Rock, Channel Rocks, and Meyer's east buoy, twice round each mark.

In the beat up to Kowloon Rock Bonito, Erica, and Chanticleer went away from the rest and rounded the first mark with about a clear boat's length between first and second and second and third. On the way to Channel Rocks Chanticleer and Phoebe went past the leaders and Maid Marian closed up, then came Sybil and Chanticleer. The wind at Meyer's buoy had changed to west and each steersman made

for where he thought the belt of calm between the two winds was narrowest. Chanticleer had the best place and went away with quite a long lead, with Maid Marian next, then Phoebe, Erica, Bonito, Sybil, and Chanticleer, Active giving up about this time. In the reach to Kowloon Rock Erica passed both Phoebe and the Maid, and held second place past Channel Rocks down to Meyer's buoy. Bonito passing both Phoebe and Maid Marian after rounding Channel Rocks. Bonito is a smart boat on a wind, and points better than any of the other boats, owing to her deeper keel, but she does not get through the water quite so fast in ordinary winds. Perhaps in a hard blow she will move along. The boats were never far apart, with the exception of the Chanticleer in the second round, and the line was crossed by Bonito, Phoebe, and Erica all overlapping.

The second class started with a run down as far as the Channel Rocks, which were rounded first by the Payne, with She second, then Princess, Dart, and Ladybird close together. In the beat up to Meyer's buoy they all closed up, and there was scarcely a minute between them, but in the beat up to the finish Ladybird went clean away, and crossed the line nearly 10 minutes in front of Princess with Dart a bad third. Times:—

	Channel Rocks.	Finish.
Chanticleer ..	3 16 18	4 12 39 1st 10 marks
Bonito ..	3 21 13	4 20 27 2nd 4 "
Phoebe ..	3 20 14	4 20 35
Erica ..	3 19 10	4 20 37 3rd 1 mark
Maid Marian ..	3 19 21	4 22 55
Meteor ..	3 22 15	4 24 12
Sybil ..	3 22 25	4 26 45
	Meyer's Buoy.	
Ladybird ..	3 38 43	5 26 10 1st 10 marks
Princess ..	3 39 50	5 35 45 2nd 4 "
Dart ..	3 39 33	not timed 3rd 1 mark
Payne ..	3 38 50	
She ..	3 39 10	

THE ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

BEST SCORE CUP FOR NOVEMBER.

There were 39 entries during the month, and the following are the returns handed in:—

Mr. P. de C. Morris ..	91	7	84
Lt. A. J. McKenzie Grieve, R.N. ..	91	6	85
Mr. W. J. Saunders ..	97	11	86
Mr. A. J. McClure ..	96	8	88
Capt. Urnston, R.M.L.I. ..	88	0	88
Mr. E. F. Mackay ..	101	11	90
Mr. E. A. Ram ..	99	9	90
Mr. G. W. F. Playfair ..	109	16	93

CAPTAIN'S CUP AND SILVER MEDAL
FOR DECEMBER.

There was again a good attendance on the links and the returns, considering the fiery state of the greens, were fairly good; the winner returned an almost excellent card, the only flaw being a 9, at the long hole, which should be negotiated in five or six:—

CAPTAIN'S CUP.		
Mr. P. de C. Morris ..	89	7 82
Capt. Urnston, R.M.L.I. ..	84	0 84
Mr. H. Pinckney ..	93	7 86
Capt. E. Burnie ..	105	18 87
Mr. C. A. Tomes ..	95	8 87
Mr. P. A. Cox ..	106	18 88
Mr. H. L. Dalrymple ..	99	8 91

26 entries.

POOL.		
Mr. P. de C. Morris ..	89	7 82
Capt. Urnston, R.M.L.I. ..	84	0 84
Mr. W. J. Saunders ..	95	11 84
Mr. H. L. Dalrymple ..	94	8 86
Mr. C. A. Tomes ..	95	8 87

22 entries.

The *Universal Gazette* says on the authority of a telegram from its Peking correspondent that the dismissal from office of Tsai Taotai was decided on because of certain irregular transactions in connection with the clandestine shipment of rice, when an attempt, it may be remembered, was made to create an artificial rice famine in the lower province. This, it says, and not his action with regard to the Ningpo Joss House affair, is the true reason of his disgrace. — *Shanghai Daily Press*.

CRICKET.

MR. COX'S XI. V. MR. SERCOMBE SMITH'S XI.

This game calls for a few remarks owing to the rapidity of the scoring and the totals amassed. In all, 601 runs were scored in 41 hours of actual play, which gives a rate, all through, of 141 runs an hour. Mr. Cox's side, thanks to a couple of dashing displays by Arthur (62) and Anton (not out 114), ran up 297 in 24 hours, or at the rate of 123 runs an hour.

Mr. Sercombe Smith's side was batting for 14 hours and compiled a score of 304 runs, being at the rate of about 203 runs an hour. The first 100 took 40 minutes to make, but in the next 50 minutes, 204 runs were made, i.e., the pace was 245 runs an hour during that period. Hubback got set at an early period and played a splendidly hit innings of 161 not out. It was when he and Atkinson were together that the foundation of a win was laid. When Atkinson left after a spirited and chanceless 53, the batting fell off in vigour; but when the captain joined Hubback at 220, the two actually made 84 runs in 15 minutes, forty of which must have come off the last three overs. During the last quarter-of-an-hour therefore runs came at the rate of 336 an hour!

Appended are the score and analysis:—

MR. COX'S XI.				
H. R. Lowe, run out	24			
H. Arthur, b Hancock	62			
R. A. Castle, R.A., b Wilson	45			
Capt. Warren, R.A., c Grutton, b Hancock ..	7			
P. A. Cox, c Smith, b Hancock	0			
Lammert, b Smith	12			
Lt. Dewar, R.N., c Wilson, b Smith	6			
A. S. Anton, not out	114			
Gerrard, c Mackenzie, b Smith	18			
A. Anderson, st. Hubback, b Noble	0			
Marryat, did not bat	8			
Extras	297			
Total	297			

BOWLING ANALYSIS.				
Overs.	Maid.	Runs.	Wickets.	N.B. Wickets.
Mackenzie	8	24	—	—
Noble	11	47	—	1
Boddington ..	—	9	—	—
T. S. Smith ..	22	96	—	3
Hancock	17	67	—	3
P. G. Davies ..	—	14	—	—
Wilson	8	27	—	1

MR. SMITH'S XI.				
T. R. Hubback, not out	161			
H. R. Hancock, c Castle, b Lowe	0			
Mr. Wilson, R.N., b Lowe	6			
J. F. Noble, c Cox, b Lowe	18			
P. G. Davies, R.A., c sub, b Lowe	6			
Dr. Atkinson, c Arthur, b Gerrard	58			
Dr. Boddington, c Anton, b Lammert	0			
A. Mackenzie, c Anton, b Lammert	8			
T. Sercombe Smith, not out	36			
Extras	16			
Total	304			

BOWLING ANALYSIS.				
Overs.	Maid.	Runs.	Wickets.	N.B. Wickets.
A. R. Lowe ..	14	78	—	4
P. A. Cox	6	48	—	—
Castle	2	16	—	—
Marryat	3	19	—	—
Anderson	2	16	—	—
Gerrard	5	26	—	1
Lammert	8	55	—	2
Warren	2	20	—	—

ARMY V. NAVY.

This match was played at Happy Valley on Saturday. The following are the scores:—

ARMY.				
Capt. Dyson, c and b Gillett	5			
G. D. Campbell, c Redman, b Gillett	5			
F. S. Johnson, b Bedwell	9			
Capt. Langhorne, b Wall	54			
W. A. Lethbridge, b Gillett	17			
Capt. Marker, b Gillett	33			
Capt. Simonds, run out	1			
K. G. Campbell, not out	29			
Rev. G. R. Vallings, not out	31			
R. G. Thomson (did not bat, innings de-)				
H. Galloway (clared closed)	2			
Extras	186			
Total	186			

BOWLING ANALYSIS.				
Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.	
Gillett	23	7	51	4
Bedwell	12	0	35	1
White	13	4	49	0
Redman	3	0	14	0
Wall	8	0	36	1
Nicholas	2	1	1	0
Nicholas bowled 2 wickets ..				

NAVY.

Mr. Wall, c Dyson, b Lethbridge.....	81
Mr. Redwell, l.b.w., b Vallings.....	9
Lt. Gillett, c Lethbridge, b Vallings.....	2
Capt. Dormer, c sub, b Langhorne.....	28
Capt. Bartou, not out.....	27
Lt. Egerton, c Johnson, b Langhorne.....	1
Mr. White, st Thomson, b Vallings.....	4
Lt. Nicholas	
Capt. Hardinge	
Mr. Redman	
Lt. Ingles	
Extras.....	5
Total.....	107

BOWLING ANALYSIS.

	Overs.	Maidens.	Runs.	Wickets.
Lethbridge.....	10	0	32	1
Galloway.....	8	0	17	0
Vallings.....	11.1	3	34	3
Langhorne.....	7	3	10	2
G. D. Campbell... 2	0	10	0	

SHOOTING.

"A" MACHINE GUN CO. H.K.V.C.

Only eight members took part in the December competition. Sergeant Skelton won the "Aggregate" Cup and scored his third win on the No. 1 Cup, thus winning it outright. He made the grand score of 100 over the range, including a possible at 400 yards. Sergeant Lammert ran him very close with the excellent score of 97, including a 34 at 400 yards. Gunner J. G. Smith registered his third win on the No. 2 Cup, thus making it his own property. Below are the scores:—

"AGGREGATE" CUP.

Sergeant Skelton.	92 83 80 93 89 84 93 91 96 95 93 100-1089 av. 90.75
Sergeant Lammert.	86 92 87 85 89 89 97 84 94 90 91 97-1081 av. 90.08

The conditions were the best 12 scores to count out of 14. Skelton knocked out 72 and 78, Lammert 84 and 83.

"NO. 1" HANDICAP CUP.

	200	400	500	H'cap.	Total
Sergt. Skelton *.....	32	35	33	—	100
Sergt. Lammert *.....	30	34	33	—	97
Sergt.-Major Crombie... 24	26	23	12	89	
Gunner J. G. Smith... 26	28	27	4	85	
Gunner Holmes..... 27	25	21	10	83	
Gunner King..... 24	23	12	20	79	
Gunner Duff..... 21	9	15	30	75	

* Winners of Spoons.

During the year a great amount of interest has been taken in the competition, and no doubt even more will be taken when the new Martini-Metford carbines are issued to the Volunteers. Several promising young shots have come forward lately, including Gunners Barrett, Holmes, Head, and J. G. Smith; they have the making of good marksmen if they will only go in for steady practice.

THE MEINGOON PRINCE AGAIN.

We translate the following from the *Avenir du Tonkin*:—

"The English police have arrested on the Cambodian frontier a Burman coming from Saigon and carrying letters from the Meingoon Prince, who is kept under surveillance by the French Government at Saigon in pursuance of a convention with the English. The letters were addressed to the independent party of Burmah by their former king (*sic*). It will be remembered that two years ago the Meingoon Prince escaped from Saigon and was arrested in Tonkin as he was about to cross the frontier into his former kingdom. Notwithstanding the failure of his attempted flight the ex-Prince does not seem to have abandoned his projects. The relations he maintains with his partisans proves this. If ever England should be in conflict with a European Power she would have in this Indian Prince a terrible adversary. The exciting incidents of his flight from India are well known, as well as the energy he displayed on that occasion and the cruelty with which he avenged himself on his mortal enemies the English in the last insurrection that he provoked and in consequence of which he took refuge in Saigon."

Our contemporary exaggerates the importance of the Meingoon Prince in the foregoing by speaking of him as a "former king" and of his former "kingdom." He is a pretender to the throne of Burmah, but never reigned, and he has now practically no influence in the

country. He was sent many years ago by the British Government to Calcutta to keep him out of mischief. From there he escaped to Pondicherry, where he placed himself under French protection and he was afterwards transferred to Saigon, where he is kept under surveillance by the French authorities in accordance with an agreement to that effect made by France with Great Britain.

THE EMPRESS DOWAGER'S WAR-LIKE MEASURES.

A Peking special telegram to the *N. C. Daily Press* dated 30th November says:—Considerable additions in men and material to the troops not only of Peking and its vicinity, but also of Mongolia and Manchuria, are being energetically but quietly pushed on, and the explanation of these warlike measures is that they are to "fight foreigners with." In consequence of this, the rowdy masses in the north are anxiously awaiting the signal, which certain officials of the Conservative party have promised to give, for a general uprising against foreigners and their China friends. The edicts issued by the Empress Dowager since coming into power have inflamed the masses against foreigners to a dangerous degree.

The Empress Dowager has formed for herself a new body guard consisting of 40,000 men of whom 10,000 were picked from the Imperial Guards; 10,000 from the Vanguard Division of the Imperial Guards; 10,000 from the Peking Field Force; and 10,000 from the eight Banner Corps organisations. The pay of the new "Empress Guards" is two taels per month more than that of the old Imperial Guards.

Native dispatches received from Peking state that the Empress Dowager has been exhibiting considerable enthusiasm in military matters and on the 28th ultimo held an inspection of the newly-raised additional regiments of the Peking Field Force outside the western gates of the Palace. The Empress Dowager at the end of the inspection commanded that the troops be informed of her pleasure at beholding their fine appearance and discipline, and further stated that she "depended upon them in times of danger and felt assured that they would prove a wall of strength to her in the present critical time." Such military inspections by the Empress Dowager as this were unknown prior to the *coup d'état* of September last.—*N. C. Daily News*.

RUSSIA AND THE RECENT PEKING CRISIS.

The Tientsin correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News*, writing on the 25th November, says:—

A significant bit of information has just come to me, which I have not seen or heard referred to heretofore. I believe it to be correct. At the time of the demonstration of the British fleet off Shanhaikuan in the gulf, the Russians were prepared and about to send 5,000 troops across country to Peking. Their dispatch was doubtless prevented by this demonstration. The meaning of all this is unquestionably this: that Russia knew what was preparing in the Palace, and was sending these troops to the support of the Empress Dowager.

The calling of troops from Shansi and other places in the early part of the season could not be explained at the time. But their massing withing easy distance of Peking is now made plain by the *coup d'état*. Possibly had the Russians reached Peking, the native soldiers would not have been ordered to the capital, but in any event, the two forces would have co-operated against any other foreign force that might have been sent to Peking, in case the status of those in possession—which meant Russia—were objected to by any other power. These coincidents were not a "happen," but are very significant.

On 25th November a fire broke out in the Ewo Cotton Mill, Shanghai, but fortunately it was overcome before it had assumed threatening dimensions by the twenty-four Grinnel sprinklers in the mixing room, with eight lines of hose laid on by the mill hands with commendable promptness. Damage Tls. 5,000.—*China Gazette*.

DISASTROUS FIRES IN SHANGHAI.

THE STORE OF HALL & HOLTZ, LD., ENTIRELY DESTROYED.

Shanghai, 28th November.

Saturday night witnessed no less than two big fires in Shanghai, both of which were of the most serious and destructive character. Of these by far the most disastrous occurred on the premises of Hall & Holtz, Limited, and obtained such a hold and spread with such astonishing rapidity that in less than an hour it was obvious that the entire block was doomed together with the whole of its valuable contents. The fire was discovered at twenty-five minutes past six, smoke being detected issuing from the furniture department, which is in close proximity to the kitchen, where it originated, access to which is gained by a narrow passage leading from the Szechuen Road. The alarm was at once given, but before assistance arrived the portion in question was well ablaze, and partly no doubt on account of the inflammable nature of the goods stored therein, wood, varnish, etc., gave every evidence of developing into a dangerous conflagration. The fire brigade lost very little time in getting the hydrants at work, but their task speedily assumed a most difficult aspect. The flames spread towards the front of the buildings in Nanking Road and seriously jeopardised the adjoining tenement occupied by Mr. J. D. Clarke, proprietor of the *Shanghai Mercury*, and Mr. W. R. Kahler of the *Temperance Union*, to whom a portion of the block is sublet. Large crowds collected in the streets and the police under Chief Inspector Howard had no little difficulty in keeping the throng from hampering the movements of the firemen. By seven o'clock the fire had assumed a firm hold of the entire upper floor and left no doubt as to the ultimate fate of the building. Fortunately a high wind which ruled in the morning had subsided and dropped into comparative insignificance, allaying all anxiety as to the safety of the premises on the opposite side of Szechuen Road. At the same time the contiguity of the *Mercury* premises furnished grounds for the gravest fears, and the efforts of the firemen were mainly directed towards checking a spread. An engine in Szechuen Road and the fire float at the Nanking Road jetty were rapidly got to work and good streams were poured on to the burning mass from practically all sides. No effort however was made by anybody, either in or out of authority, to save any of the stock in the lower floor or basement and when some time later the galvanised iron roof fell in, carrying with it what remained of the second floor, the work of destruction was complete. Notwithstanding its somewhat imposing exterior the ravages of the flames disclosed the fact that the premises were anything but well built. The supports of the upper floor, instead of being steel or iron girders bearing a concrete bed, as one might have expected in the construction of such an important place of business, proved to be wooden beams and as a consequence it was a matter of impossibility to save the basement. Had the outbreak occurred below, the upper floor would have been doomed by the same rule. Before nine o'clock the store was a wreck and although still burning firemen had obtained the mastery and effectually prevented an extension. The *Mercury* office suffered some appreciable damage, the comprador's room being burnt out, whilst a portion of the staircase was burnt and a large quantity of paper damaged by both fire and water. The adjacent store of Hung Cheong, the well known silversmith and curio dealer, was also threatened, but the canny proprietor with the perspicuity of his race lost no time in removing his wares to a place of safety. A number of bluejackets from H. M. S. *Phoenix* landed and assisted him in the performance of this task besides aiding in the work of extinction. As we have already stated, it was most fortunate that the wind lent no force to the flames or without doubt the hongs and premises abutting from Kiukiang Road would have shared in the catastrophe. As it was, a window in Messrs. Wisner's tea godown became ignited and had it not been for the prompt action of Mr. Burgoyne, who got it under, the warehouse itself might have been demolished. For an hour or more showers of sparks shot upwards from the rapidly disappearing Fuh-lee and fell uncomfortably near the

buildings at the rear, but an eager vigilance on the part of the firemen and many private individuals dispelled whatever grounds for fear may have been engendered. By half-past ten the fire was under absolute control, though the firemen continued playing on the wreckage in the basement until well into the small hours of the morning. The damage, which is fully covered by insurance, will exceed a quarter of a million dollars, that is to say the stock. The details of the insurance on the contents are as follows:—

	Tls.
Imperial	15,000
Commercial Union	40,000
Northern	25,000
China Fire	20,000
Hongkong Fire	20,000
New Zealand	10,000
Transatlantic	15,000
Hanseatic	15,000

Total Tls. 160,000

The building itself belonged to Messrs. D. Sasson, Sons & Co. and was also fully insured. It was built by Messrs. Fletcher & Co. over thirty years ago, and then consisted of two parallel godowns with a passage between and rooms above. It cost some Tls. 40,000, and would probably cost very much more than that now. The damage sustained at the *Mercury* office was considerable. The unfortunate and fateful coincidence of another serious fire raging in the Settlement at the same time played no small part in bringing about a total loss. As was natural the full strength of the brigade was unavailable and led to some slight delay in getting the hose in position. The directors of Hall & Holtz, Limited, desire to tender their sincere thanks to the Fire Brigade and all who assisted in extinguishing the flames, and further intimate that the business of the company will be resumed as soon as possible at their premises at the junction of Soochow and Yuen-ming-yuen Roads.

FAMILIES BURNT OUT IN ALBANY GARDENS.

About the same time a fire broke out in Albany gardens. It originated in a row of Chinese dwellings in Hankow Road, at the back of the Rev. C. J. F. S. Symons' house. Owing to the flimsy structure of the Chinese buildings, the fire soon spread and threatened to be a serious conflagration. The French brigade was promptly on the spot and, assisted by the Salvage Corps, soon had the flames under control. In the meantime the foreigners living in Albany gardens were busily removing their belongings. Great praise is due to Inspector Wilson and his staff for the energetic and able services they rendered. When the Chinese dwellings were gutted out, the firemen, thinking all danger was over, advised the foreigners to let their chattels remain, assuring them all was safe. Unfortunately the flying sparks had caught the eaves of the Rev. Mr. Symons' roof and to the astonishment of everyone it suddenly burst out into flame and spread with amazing rapidity to the next two houses, occupied by Mr. Clayton, of the I. M. Customs, and Mr. Wallace, of the Sun Fire Insurance Co. The two streams were immediately brought to bear on this fresh development and by 10.30 the firemen had nothing but smouldering ruins to cope with. A remarkable feature of the fire is that the servants' dwellings which separated the Chinese from the foreign houses are untouched, although the conflagration raged fiercely within a few feet at back and front. We are unable to ascertain the total loss, but are informed that Mr. Wallace is insured in the "Sun Fire" for Tls. 2,500 and has sustained damage to the extent of Tls. 1,700. The Rev. Mr. Symons is covered in the "Phoenix" for Tls. 3,000. Mr. Clayton, having only been a few months in occupation, was uninsured and, strange to say, had intended taking out a policy this coming week. He has practically lost everything. The foreign houses are owned by Mr. S. A. Hardeen and we believe are fully insured. About the ten Chinese houses burnt we have as yet no details. Two Chinese employees of an Insurance Company were caught by the Rev. Mr. Symons assessing the contents of his wardrobe and were promptly handed over to the police.—N. C. Daily News.

H.M.S. *Centurion* arrived from the North on 8th Dec. and went into dock in the afternoon.

SERIOUS CALAMITY AT HANKOW.

Hankow, 21st November.

Another serious calamity has befallen this devoted town, not fire but water being the agent this time. About noon yesterday half a street of houses, extending from the Great Matou to the Middle Matou, a distance of about a li along the edge of the river Han, suddenly broke away and tumbled clean into the water on the top of all the boats there. At this particular point the bank at present is forty feet high and almost perpendicular. The houses built on it, according to the custom here, extended a good deal beyond the edge of the bank by the aid of poles supporting them from underneath. The river at this spot is very deep and runs with a strong current. There have been some freshets recently which must have cut away the bank below the level of the water, for the whole gave way without the least warning, and houses and boats with all the people in them disappeared in a moment with a great crash. As usual, it is impossible to learn with any accuracy the number of lives lost, but the general statement is that about a hundred houses and the same number of boats are gone, and from five hundred to a thousand people drowned. There is not much to be seen at the place, nothing but a bare bank as clean cut away as if it had been done with a huge razor, and the water covered with sampans with people busy fishing up bodies, or anything else they can hook hold of.—N. C. Daily News correspondent.

ADMIRAL SEYMOUR A.D. VICEROY LIU.

Nanking, 3rd December.

Admiral Seymour arrived at Nanking from Hankow in H.M.S. *Alacrity* on the 1st instant. H.E. had an interview with Viceroy Liu the following day which was marked by great cordiality on both sides. Upon expressing a wish to inspect the forts and defences at Kiangyin, Viceroy Liu at once gave a willing consent to the Admiral, who is expected to visit the forts to-day. General Chang, who is in command at present at Kiangyin, was instructed by the Viceroy to render every facility to the British Naval officers during their visit.—N. C. Daily News.

KANG YU-WEI AND THE LEGATIONS.

The *Kobe Chronicle* translates from a Japanese vernacular paper the following Peking despatch:—

Peking, 28th November.

Kang Yu-wei recently addressed letters to the Ministers of the various Powers at Peking. That addressed to the German Minister was of the nature of an official communication and had affixed to it the official seal of the Superintendent of the *Official Gazette*. [This was the journal in which the Emperor took such interest; it was suppressed after the *coup d'etat*.] The letter begins by stating that Kang Yu-wei had received private instructions as to his policy from the Emperor himself and denounces the character of the Empress Dowager. The writer urges that the German Minister should consult with his Government, and, obtaining its consent, remove the false Court and restore the Emperor to power, which if accomplished ample reward will be given the German Minister. The letters addressed to the other Ministers were in similar terms.

As the letters came from Hongkong after Kang Yu-wei left for Japan, it is supposed by some that they were written by his friends, while others believe that they are forgeries.

The *China Gazette* says:—A very interesting suit will shortly be tried before a jury in the British Supreme Court. Mrs. Joly, widow of the late British Consul at Chemulpo, suing the Sun Life Insurance Company to enforce payment of a policy of £2,500 on her late husband's life. Mr. Joly was only insured some six months before his death and had only paid one premium, for which a provisional receipt was issued, when he died. Owing to, as the Company allege, some violation of their terms of insurance they have refused to pay the policy; hence the suit.

ILLEGAL EXPORT OF RICE FROM SHANGHAI.

It is stated in local mandarin circles that Viceroy Liu of Nanking, Governor Tsé of Soochow, and Provincial Treasurer Nieh of the latter city, have had each a deputy in Shanghai for the last five or six weeks secretly investigating the amount of rice that has been exported from this port, thereby increasing the local retail prices almost to famine rates again. It will be remembered that famine rates ruled here last summer owing to the export of immense quantities of rice at the time, guaranteed by *huchao* or passes reported to be issued from Tsai Taotai's *yamen*. It is further rumoured that the reports of the deputies noted above to their respective superior officers will be far from favourable to the local authorities.—N. C. Daily News.

PIRACY IN THE NORTH.

A Chefoo dispatch states that, owing to the general distress caused by the disastrous Yellow River floods, numbers of the refugees have taken to piracy on the coast, a large number of cargo and passenger junks having been robbed within the last two months, with considerable loss both in life and goods. At first the larger and better-armed junks were not molested at all, but owing to the powerlessness of the authorities to punish these depredations, the pirates have become bolder and large junks have recently also been attacked. On the 18th ultimo a well-armed junk with a numerous crew and some twenty passengers was attacked near Chefoo by two pirate junks and a desperate encounter ensued, resulting in the loss of twenty-two men killed and wounded on the junk and some Tls. 4,000 in cash and goods.—N. C. Daily News.

HEAVY FAILURES AT SHANGHAI AND HANKOW.

Shanghai, 26th November.

On Tuesday night a Swatow man named Chou Chuan-yi, owner of the Tai Koo-chuan Shipping Agency, and Northern and Southern Produce Merchant, in the French Settlement, absconded taking his family with him and leaving debts owing to the various native banks in this port as well as to native sugar importing hong, etc., to a total amount of Tls. 243,000, odd. The Tai Koo-chuan Hong was of many years' standing here and was one of the largest shipping agencies and import businesses of the port as may be judged by the large amount of its indebtedness. No less than twenty-nine native banking hong are among its creditors, several cotton dealers and six sugar hong. When it was known early on Wednesday morning that Chou had flown, the creditors had his nephew named Chou Hsi-kai and an employé named Chiang arrested, and these two will doubtless throw some light on their principal's operations. On Thursday, owing to this failure, money was very tight among the native bankers both at Tungkadoo and in the English Settlement, making it hard for large numbers of native business men to meet their engagements, for that day and yesterday all the principal native banks refused to pay out any money. It is to be feared that this will bring on more failures. Already several native banks of reputed good standing, are said to be rather "shaky" and a semi-panic prevails in the money market. So far as is known just now Chou's only assets consists of 4,000 bags of sugar and a few thousand taels due to him.

A telegram received yesterday from Hankow reports the sudden failure at that port of a large native bank with liabilities amounting to over Tls. 400,000.

Shanghai, 29th November.

As a consequence of the failure of the Tai-koo-chuan Swatow Hong in the French settlement last Tuesday, as already stated in these columns, a large native bank of over fifty years' standing at Tungkadoo called the Paoyu Bank failed yesterday with liabilities aggregating some Tls. 150,000. The majority of the depositors in this bank are people of moderate means, and the distress consequent on the failure will be most acute, coming especially at it does near the end of the Chinese year.

The head banker himself named Tang died last summer and was succeeded by his eldest son who, it seems, disappeared with the closing of the bank doors yesterday, as was also the case with the manager and also the second partner of the concern. The Tang family, however, own a couple of large pawnshops, a large drug hong, and a Northern and Southern Produce wholesale and retail hong, and will be able doubtless to pay over their share of the deficit; but the families of the other two partners in the Paoyü Bank are reported to be without any reliable assets; hence the burden, according to Chinese custom, will have to fall upon the head partner alone.—*N. C. Daily News.*

SQUEEZERS IN CONFLICT.

There appears to be a conflict of authority in the game of "squeeze" between the Shanghai magistrate and the officer in charge of the newly established Bureau of Reorganisation which has jurisdiction over the territory covered by the new Chinese Bund. The city magistrate had just begun instituting a tax on opium dens and opium retail shops in the above territory—a measure already viewed with alarm by the people to be taxed—when the above-named Bureau also gave notice through the various *tipaos* that a similar tax would be collected by the officers of that institution. As a preliminary, the *tipaos* were ordered to summon all proprietors of opium dens and retail shops belonging to the new Bund district to appear yesterday morning before the Bureau Director Mr. Chu, to state the extent of business conducted by each in order to form a basis for the projected tax. Much to Mr. Chu's surprise the *tipaos* told him yesterday that these proprietors had flatly refused to appear and that they had declared also their unwillingness to pay two taxes. Mr. Chu then ordered his *tipaos* to take down the notices at the doors of opium dens and retail shops which had been posted by the city magistrate's runners and also to forbid the proprietors of the same from paying any taxes to the *hsien* or city magistrate. The *tipaos* performed the second command but hesitated about the first for they are equally under the jurisdiction of the city magistrate and the Bureau of Reorganisation. In the meanwhile the opium dealers are considerably amused, being only too glad to be exempted from paying the city magistrate's tax, while there was a lull yesterday afternoon in the opposing camps of "squeezers," preparatory to their grievances against each other being laid before the Shanghai Taotai, their chief. The outcome of the dispute will be that importers of the Indian drug will be the real sufferers together with the consumers.—*N. C. Daily News.*

The *N. C. Daily News* of the 5th December says:—It is with very deep sorrow that we have to announce the death of Mr. George R. Corner, which occurred at his house in Museum Road at 6.30 a.m. yesterday from failure of the heart. His many friends have noted very regretfully that he was ageing considerably in the last few months, but his sudden death comes as a shock to all. Mr. Corner came out to China early in the sixties and was a book-keeper in the firm of Overweg & Co. After that firm retired from business, Mr. Corner joined the late Mr. Pearson, who was a public accountant, Agent for Reuter, and Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, Mr. Corner succeeding to these posts at Mr. Pearson's death, and holding them for many years. He was one of the founders and for very many years a mainstay of the Amateur Dramatic Club, having designed the stage and painted a large portion of the scenery, while as Secretary of the Recreation Fund Trustees, he kept up his interest in the Lyceum almost to the last. Flowers were his favourite hobby, and Shanghai owes a deep debt of gratitude to him for all the work he did so cheerfully and energetically for his adopted home, and the Public Gardens will long remain a testimony to the ability and loving care he devoted to them. His intimate friends, the circle of whom had been gradually closing in, know what a thoroughly good-hearted man he was, and they will miss him acutely. His age was something over sixty, and he was never married. Another of the veterans of Shanghai has dropped from the ranks.

ESTABLISHMENT OF A PASTEUR INSTITUTE AT SHANGHAI.

REPORT ON INVESTIGATIONS IN JAPAN.

At a recent meeting of the Shanghai Municipal Council the following report by the Health Officer on the results of his recent work in Japan was submitted and ordered for publication:—

Shanghai, 22nd November, 1898.

Sir,—I have to submit the following account of work done during my visit to Japan.

The Pasteur Institute at Nagasaki was first visited. This forms part of a small bacteriological laboratory in connection with one of the five schools of medicine in Japan. There is no foreign teaching in the school and the director has little reputation as a worker in bacteriology. It cannot be compared with that under Kitasato in Tokio. From what I saw, I could not conscientiously recommend cases to go there for treatment.

KITASATO'S INSTITUTE FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASES AT TOKYO.

This Institution is a copy of the celebrated Koch Hygienic Institute in Berlin. Professor Kitasato studied for nine years under Koch in Berlin, and is the discoverer of the Tetanus, Influenza, and Plague bacilli. I attended this Laboratory daily and found Kitasato very good in providing me with all the necessary material for work. After satisfying myself as to the methods used, I went through the course of injections for Pasteur treatment of Hydrophobia with a view to being rendered proof against accidental inoculation when subsequently working with hydrophobic material. I brought away with me the brain of a rabbit which had died of rabies, with which I can start the series in Shanghai.

While in Tokyo I was able to purchase the instruments necessary for the carrying out of the Pasteur treatment. For these I expended the sum of three hundred and twenty yen.

I also obtained from Kitasato's laboratory cultures of the bacilli of Plague, Cholera, Typhoid, Erysipelas, etc., so that now the Shanghai Municipal Laboratory is well equipped as regards material for work.

Hydrophobia is uncommon in Japan. The number of dogs is, as compared with Shanghai, very small.

Imperial Vaccine Station, Tokyo, was visited and samples of lymph obtained. There is a large staff, entirely Japanese, and a large quantity of lymph is made.

Imperial University of Tokyo.—I visited the hospitals and laboratories, and obtained a second series of cultures of bacteria from Prof. Ogata.

Municipal Isolation Hospital, Tokyo, is a newly erected and extensive structure where cases of infectious disease such as dysentery, cholera, typhoid fever, diphtheria, etc., are isolated. The general arrangements are very good.

The Lock Hospital of the Tokyo Yoshiwara was visited. The system of examination of the four thousand prostitutes is very thorough and the hospital arrangements excellent. The amount of venereal disease is rather less than among the Chinese prostitutes of Shanghai.

THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT SANITARY BUREAU.

I had an interview with Dr. Hasegawa, the chief of the Sanitary Bureau, who furnished me with reports and statistics of Public Health in Japan.

The Tokyo Sanitary Department of which Dr. Yamane is chief, afforded me the means of visiting all the works bearing on sanitation.

The Steam Disinfecting Stations are under the care of the Health Department.

Public Slaughter Houses are very complete and afford means of disposal of rejected carcasses by burning.

On the subjects of refuse and night-oil disposal, little was to be learnt. With regard to garbage, their system of collection is not so good as in Shanghai. The night-soil is removed by the municipality in wooden buckets and sold for manure.

There is no proper system of drainage, merely surface drainage by means of side channels which are rarely water-tight, so that earth pollution is general.

The night-soil removed from the hospital for infectious diseases is cremated at the crematorium.

The Crematoriums are very complete and so small is the charge made that cremation is the rule and ordinary burial the exception. In fact, burial is illegal within the limits of Tokio. There are seven crematoriums in Tokio which are financed by private companies and pay a good percentage of profit.

The charges made for cremation are as follows:—

		Children.
1st class	8 yen.	6 yen.
2nd "	3.50 "	2.75 "
3rd "	2 "	1.30 "

The average cost for fuel for each cremation is one yen.

Total income from 3,541 cremations for first half of 1898 was:—

24,733 yen.
Expenditure 16,375 "

8,358 yen=profit on 3,541

cremations.

The cremations usually take three hours and are done at night, the relations coming in the morning to carry away the ashes.

The Tokyo Hygienic Laboratory is an extensive institution whose chief function is the analysis of food and drugs. There is also a hygienic museum attached to it.

THE POSSIBILITY OF ESTABLISHING THE PASTEUR TREATMENT OF HYDROPHOBIA IN SHANGHAI.

I am now prepared both with material and apparatus and propose to begin at once with the preliminary work. The present laboratory accommodation is of course very small for the work and I hope that the new laboratories will not be long in being erected. I should think that it will be possible to be ready for the treatment of persons bitten by rabid animals on the 1st of March, 1899. The work is such that the material must always be kept in readiness by inoculating a series of rabbits and the same amount of labour is necessary for treating a hundred cases as for being in a position to treat a single one.

In any case the work will be a considerable increase in the usefulness, responsibility, and amount of the duties carried out by the Municipal Health Department.

ARTHUR STANLEY,
Health Officer.

WLADIVOSTOCK.

13th November.

On the 3rd of November, between 8 and 9 p.m. a gang of six robbers attacked the Catholic Church, killing two old men, servants of the church, which they plundered. Three of the robbers were arrested and will be tried by the military tribunal on the 17th. It is expected that they will be hung.

The Amur district proposes to open in our town a zoological station for the exploration of the biology of the sea. The Society maintains here a museum with collections of objects belonging to the Kiliaks, Orochais, Chukchs, etc., etc. The library of the Society contains 3,000 volumes in Russian, French, English, and German.

Major-General Subotich, Governor of the Maritime District, has been appointed Commander of the troops in the Kuantun Peninsula.

A French firm has recently opened a magazine of fashions in Vladivostock. Prices are rather high.

We have already two newspapers, the *Dalni Vostok* and the *Vladivostock*. On the 1st of September, O.S., a new paper, the *Vostochnii Vestnik* (*Eastern Herald*) made its appearance.

The summer and autumn this year have been remarkably fine.—*N. C. Daily News* correspondent.

We are informed by Messrs. John D. Humphreys and Son, General Managers of Olivers Freehold Mines, Limited, that they have received a telegram from the mines as follows:—
" Mill ran 28 days; clean-up yielded 325 ozs. of gold (value about £1,150); mill stopped 5 days for boiler to be cleaned and repaired. 150 feet North Level is driven in 212 feet; Enrek a B shaft, we are now driving for reef."

MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Macao, 3rd November.

Colonel Porphirio Zeferino de Souza, who was shot on Monday by one of the men of the garrison, died on Tuesday night. His death was mourned by a wide circle of friends and the funeral was largely attended. All the brother officers of the deceased and the principal civil officials were present. The order of the procession was:—Harbour police, retired soldiers and lunks, the Macao battalion (the force which deceased had commanded), the coffin, the boys of St. Joseph's College, military and naval officers and civil officials, and a large number of civilians.

The Count of Turin arrived on Thursday and immediately upon his arrival proceeded to visit the principal places of interest in the colony, accompanied by Senhor Mario B. de Lima, Colonial Secretary and Acting Governor. In the evening a dinner was given in his honour at Government House. His Royal Highness stayed at Government House over night and left yesterday morning for your port.

CANTON NOTES.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO."]

The Viceroy has received instructions from the Peking Government to the effect that in trying cases of bankruptcy great care should be exercised so as to protect commerce and that the Yamen runners are to be strictly watched to prevent their making squeezes. The Viceroy has accordingly notified his subordinate officers to that effect.

An Imperial Edict was issued by the Emperor on the 4th inst. depriving Weng Tung-ho and Wu Ta-ching of their ranks. They were dismissed from office some months ago, but at that time allowed to retain their ranks. The former, who was ex-president of the Board of Revenue, one of the Grand Secretaries, and Tutor of the Emperor, was blamed on account of his failing to give a proper education to the Emperor and strongly recommending Kang Yu-wei as a clever and well-educated person. The blame falling on Wu Ta-ching, who was ex-Governor of Hunan and Kwangtung, is that he is ill-famed, proud, and cunning in executing public affairs. Neither will be given any public appointment again.

On the 28th ultimo a disastrous fire broke out in Sz-Kiu, Pun-u. Over five hundred houses were utterly destroyed, most of the houses being of wood.

The Canton Sanitary Board, named Tsung Siu-sha, has commenced to cleanse all the streets and lanes. Over forty coolies have been engaged to undertake the work.

The Canton-Kamlee steamer, being as large as the *Pak-Kong* and specially built to run between the above named places, was robbed on the 2nd inst. at 9.15 a.m. on her voyage from Canton to Kamlee. Twenty robbers boarded the steamer as passengers, twelve from Canton and eight from Chanchuen. Shortly after leaving Chanchuen, the robbers commenced their operations. They first seized the captain and threatened to put him to death if he would not yield to their wishes, and then drove all the crew to a corner. They searched the persons of all the passengers, who numbered about two hundred and fifty, for valuables. After a thorough search had been made of the ship, they succeeded in getting booty to the value of over three thousand dollars. They then forced the master of the steamer to steam to Chutan-shan, where they landed.

As the crops seem not to grow well this season, the local magistrates have commenced the service of praying for rain, which has not shown its appearance for a long time, and in consequence of which the price of rice is getting higher daily.

News has reached Canton that H. E. Luk Chuen-lim, Governor-designate of Canton, has left Peking to pay a visit to his native country. He is expected to arrive at Canton at the end of next month.

The Douglas Steamship Company's steamer *Formosa* having completed her 300th trip she was on 2nd Dec. gay with bunting in celebration of the event.

HONGKONG.

There were 2,428 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 163 were Europeans.

The Hongkong and China Gas Company recommend an interim dividend at the rate of 8 per cent. per annum, or 8s. per share, for the half-year ended 30th June last.

Lieut.-Col. the Hon. E. Noel, who was in Hongkong with the Rifle Brigade, succeeds Major Poett as D.-A.-A.-G. (a) to H.E. the Major-General at Colombo.

The Secretary of the Punjom Mining Co., Limited, advises us that he has received the following telegram giving the result of the November clean-up—"The mill ran 27 days, crushing 2,900 tons, yielding 242 ozs. of smelted gold. There has been no clean-up of cyanide plant."

In the paragraph giving the result of the October clean-up of the Punjom Mines, published in our issue of 5th November, the transposition of a comma in the closing sentence altered the sense intended to be conveyed. The sentence should read:—"The mines are valuable prospects, requiring development."

A telegram has been received by Messrs. Lutgens, Einstmann & Co., General Agents of the Great Eastern and Caledonian Gold Mining Co., Limited, to the effect that crushing will not begin before January, that the total amount of ore now ready for the mill is 800 tons, and that the estimated value of same is one ounce to the ton.

Captain Goggin, of the Hongkong, Canton, and Macao Steamboat Company's service, left for home on 7th Dec., accompanied by Mrs. Goggin, by the N. D. L. steamer *Bayern*. Captain Goggin has recently suffered from a serious illness and is going home to recruit. His many friends will wish him a speedy restoration to complete health.

One of the recently-surveyed blocks of mining land on the line of the Raub reef, near the south boundary of that Company's lease, was sold by auction the other day, and was knocked down for the upset price (\$500) to Mr. A. H. Bibby, who purchased it on behalf of the newly-formed South Raub syndicate. The lot comprises 50 acres.—*Straits Times*.

H.E. Sir Henry Blake held a levee at Government House on the 8th December, which was numerously attended. The private entrée commenced at a quarter-to-four and the general levee at four o'clock. The naval, military, and police officers, the members of the Civil Service, and a very large number of the civilian community had the honour of being presented to His Excellency.

At the Supreme Court on 5th Dec. Mr. R. Marten, who is the foreman of the special jury in the case *Kok v. Belillos*, said that as the case was likely to last two or three days the jury would like to ask his lordship about the costs. His Lordship said the matter was very much in the hands of the counsel. He thought that on a former occasion the jury were allowed \$10 a day each. The counsel agreed to a similar allowance in this case.

The house flag of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire and the flags of the vessels connected with the firm were half-masted on Saturday and Sunday, information having been received by telegraph on Saturday morning of the death of Mr. John Samuel Swire, the senior partner of Messrs. John Swire and Sons, of London, and of Messrs. Butterfield and Swire. The deceased gentleman was never resident in China or Hongkong but made visits to the Far East on one or two occasions. The hong flag of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co. was also half-masted in sympathy.

The first of a series of smokers which it is proposed to hold at the Volunteer Headquarters during the winter months took place on Saturday night, and under the genial chairmanship of Major Sir John Carrington was a great success. In the course of the evening Sergeant-Major Duncan made a statement with regard to the band fund. An expenditure of close upon \$700 has been incurred, and up to the present only about \$250 has been raised, the concerts got up for liquidating the debt not having been as successful as was anticipated. An appeal is to be made to the members of the corps for subscriptions.

At the Magistracy on 2nd Dec. morning an enquiry was held by Commander Hastings touching the death of a man named Thomas Sexton formerly a sergeant in the Naval Yard Police, who was found dead on a bench in the Stag hotel on Thursday evening. He had been taken into the hotel in the afternoon after he had been seen to fall on the pavement outside. The man had been drinking heavily, and a post mortem examination showed the stomach to be full of raw whiskey. A verdict to the effect that death was due to alcoholic poisoning was returned.

The report of the Odd Volumes Society for 1897-8, after enumerating the meetings held during the season, expresses regret at the departure of the President, Sir William Robinson, G.C.M.G., who had always given very great encouragement to the Society not only by his frequent attendance, but also by the papers which he read before the members. H.E. Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G., has kindly consented to become President of the Society in his place. Any member of the Society who is either willing to read a paper himself or who knows of any friend who is willing to do so is requested to communicate with the Hon. Secretary, Hon. H. E. Pollock. The season will commence with a concert to be given at the St. George's Hall on Thursday, 22nd December.

At about noon on Sunday Mr. Wakeford, assistant civil engineer of the Admiralty Works Department at Kowloon, noticed smoke issuing from one of the coal stacks in the torpedo depot. He at once gave the alarm and a gun was fired from H.M.S. *Tweed* as a signal that a fire had broken out. In response the engine from the Naval Yard appeared on the scene and also the Government floating fire engine, in charge of Mr. D. MacDonald. Commander Henderson, Commander Taylor, Mr. Smith (torpedo gunner), and Mr. Cook were also present. The building containing the coal, of which there were about 35,000 tons, was completely flooded, and the removal of the coal was commenced forthwith. Coolies were busily engaged in this work until Monday, by which time the fire had been stamped out. Spontaneous combustion was the cause of the outbreak.

At the meeting of the United Service Lodge No. 1341, held on 8th Dec., Bro. Jno. Bremner, who had been elected Worshipful Master for the ensuing year, was duly installed in the chair by Right Wor. Bro. the Hon. C. P. Chater, the District Grand Master, who was assisted in the ceremony by Wor. Bro. E. C. Ray, the Deputy District Grand Master, and the Grand Lodge Officers. Wor. Bro. Bremner then invested his officers as follows:—S.W., Bro. G. W. Crombie; J.W., Bro. G. W. Watling; Chaplain, Bro. S. Robins; Treasurer, Wor. Bro. H. J. Watson; Secretary, Wor. Bro. W. Baker; S.D., Bro. W. G. Warnock; J.D., Bro. G. G. Burnett; Dir. of Ceremonies, Bro. T. G. Creber; I.G., Bro. F. G. Stainton; Stewards, Bro. C. P. Skinner and Bro. F. G. Smith; Tyler, Bro. J. R. Grimble. On the closing of the Lodge the brethren sat down to a banquet, the banquet hall having been handsomely decorated for the occasion, a prominent feature of the decorations being electric light designs. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were honoured.

At the Magistracy on Saturday a discharged servant of the Hongkong Hotel was charged with an attempted robbery on the hotel premises. Mr. Sylvester, an American merchant who is staying at the hotel, awoke about four o'clock on Saturday morning to find a Chinaman walking out in his room. He sprang out of bed and gave chase along the passage. The Chinaman darted into a room, and Mr. Sylvester followed, and found one of the hotel boys seated on a bed. Three other hotel boys were asleep. A handkerchief and a gold match box were lying beside another handkerchief with the boy's name marked on it. The police were sent for, and the boy given into custody. Mr. Sylvester discovered that \$307.75 in two \$100 notes, one \$50 note, and the remainder smaller notes and silver, and a pen-knife, had been abstracted from his trouser pockets. A search was made in the boy's room without avail, but after the boy had been taken to the Central Police Station a further search of the room was made and the money was found under the carpet. Prisoner was sentenced to six months' imprisonment.

On 5th December on the Happy Valley the Hongkong Football Club played E Company of the King's Own Regiment. For the first few minutes the soldiers were playing around the Club's goal, but nothing resulted. Some good runs on the wings by the Club forwards relieved the pressure and from an excellent centre from near a corner-flag Lethbridge scored for the Club. The Company again pressed and obtained a corner, from which nothing resulted. The forwards of E Company were playing a good attacking game, but their combination was greatly broken up by the Club's halves. Later another goal was scored by Bedwell. Changing over Bayson notched a point for the soldiers, which was the only one scored by them, although at times they appeared to be somewhat dangerous. However, Lethbridge put on another for the Club, and Lloyd with an excellent run finally landed the ball into the net, so the match ended in a win for the Club by four goals to one.

At the Magistracy on Saturday, before Commander Hastings, the scavenging contractor was charged with throwing certain refuse into the storm water drain instead of taking it to a boat provided for the purpose in the harbour. Mr. Dennys, who appeared for the prosecution, said a very large expense had been gone to in this colony in order to make a double system of drainage. There were certain drains for carrying off the filth or sewage from the town, and there were certain storm-water drains in which no filth or sewage might be put at all. On the 21st of last month two of defendant's coolies were seen throwing filth into one of the storm-water drains and they were fined \$5 each. At the same time the contractor was informed that should such an offence occur again he himself would be prosecuted. On the 27th November Mr. Carral, of the Public Works Department, saw two of defendant's coolies at the corner of Pound Lane take sewage out of a sewage trap or gully, carry it along to Hollywood Road in buckets, and deposit it in the rain-water sewer there. It was for defendant to have proper foremen to look after his coolies and prevent them from dumping stuff into the rain-water drains. Mr. Carral having given evidence, Mr. Melbourne, who appeared for defendant, addressed the Court. The full penalty—\$50—was imposed.

On 6th December on the Happy Valley the Hongkong Football Club played the Navy under Rugby rules. More than 1,000 spectators viewed a most interesting match. The Club kicked off and gradually worked the ball into the Naval half until finally, by excellent passing, the ball was handed to Cox, who scored the first try, which was not converted. The Navy tried hard to retrieve but only once during the first half were they dangerously near. Changing over, Sheen, after a few minutes' play, broke away and scored for the Navy in magnificent style and the try was converted amidst much enthusiasm. The Club then settled down to work and played their very best in order to prevent a disaster. Several times they were near scoring but it was not until within five minutes of time being called that Campbell made a good run which placed the ball in the desired quarter. The try was not converted. Now the Navy were defeated unless they could manage in the few minutes remaining to add to their score, and when, from a scrum in mid-field, a Naval forward was seen running in splendid style towards the Club goal, a mighty cheer reverberated throughout the Happy Valley. However, the player was stopped when just on the point of scoring. After a few scrums the whistle blew, the Club thus winning the match by six points to five.

MISCELLANEOUS.

An amusing accident to a native bicyclist is reported by the N. C. Daily News. A festive Chinese in gay apparel was spinning along on his "bike" when his feet suddenly caught the handles and a retrograde movement brought him flat on the ground. On investigation, his much cherished queue was found to have caught on the hub of the wheel and was neatly wound up. It evidently won't do to form a bicycle corps out of the Chinese Regiment to be raised at Weihaiwei.

A sad accident occurred at Foochow on the 28th December. Some Russians formed a shooting party to Yuenfa and whilst climbing the hills one of their number wandered out of sight. Soon after, a report was heard, and as their friend did not put in an appearance search was made, when he was found lying at the base of a rock with one of his arms shattered. It appears a fall whilst climbing caused the gun to go off. The wounded man is progressing favourably.

The Kobe Chronicle of the 28th November says:—Mr. J. Carey Hall, H.B.M.'s Consul, left by the *Empress of Japan* on Friday for Hongkong on a short leave of absence. As our readers are aware, Mr. Hall has been suffering for a considerable time from a severe attack of rheumatism, which kept him prostrate for several weeks. He has only recently returned to his official duties, and makes the trip in the hope that it will completely restore his health.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED KINGDOM AND CONTINENT.

	1898-99	1897-98
	lbs.	lbs.
Hankow and Shanghai...	12,465,290	13,868,361
Foochow	11,773,256	11,980,514
Amoy	684,252	675,084
Canton	4,443,760	5,455,162
	29,386,558	31,979,121

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1898-99	1897-98
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai	11,643,181	17,492,496
Amoy	10,275,881	11,931,797
Foochow	6,360,976	7,126,264
	28,280,038	36,554,557

EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA

	1898-99	1897-98
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai and Hankow...	22,676,902	19,462,293

EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1898-99	1897-98
	lbs.	lbs.
Yokohama	23,039,781	24,475,448
Kobe	12,166,816	24,475,448
	35,206,597	38,797,650

SILK.

CANTON, 26th November.—Tsaitles—Nos. 1, 2 and 4 have been in fairly good enquiry, but little has been done for Europe. Small lots of selected No. 1 having been sold for Bombay at \$600 and supplies being very small, dealers were reluctant to sell for forward delivery. Nos. 4, 4½ and 5 are to be had in small lots. Re-reels.—A few hundred bales of Nos. 2 and 3 Grant might easily be placed at \$575/560. About 50 bales of No. 1 Grant are said to have been settled at \$595 and more are wanted. Filatures.—Fine sizes are wanted for Lyons at \$10/20 below actual market rates, and if the Chinese dealers were to give way somewhat a fair business might ensue. Short-reels.—Have been in little enquiry for America, especially the better grades, although very high prices have been paid for a few favourite chops like Hau King Lun, Yu King, etc.—No. 2 and so-so No. 2 chops are absolutely neglected, and the few purchases made in these sorts seem to be of speculative nature. Good No. 3 14/16 continue to be very scarce and are only obtainable for delivery in 2-4 months. Waste.—About 1,500 bales of market Extra opened have been settled at \$52 per picul, about 800 bales of unopened Market Extra at \$49, and 4/500 double Extra at \$66½/66½.

SHANGHAI, 3rd December.—(From Messrs. A. B. Burkill & Sons' Circular).—According to the latest news the Home markets are quiet, with quotations unchanged. Raw Silk.—There has been a good general business done throughout the week, and holders have obtained an advance of Tls. 6 for some of the favourite chops; settlements amount to fully 1,000/1,200 bales. Yellow Silk.—About 200 bales have changed hands; prices are steady. Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, November 26th to December 2nd, are: 745 bales White, 218 bales

Yellow, and 281 bales Wild Silk. Re-reels and Filatures. A parcel of Hand Filatures, Mars Chop Croisette No. 1 at Tls. 520, and a small lot of Market Steam Filatures comprises the business this week for America; for Lyons about 150 bales Hand Filatures have been taken on the basis of quotation below. The Export of Steam Filatures to date is: 1,665 bales to the Continent, 968 bales to America and 61 bales to England. Wild Silk.—A large business has been done this week in Raws, and settlements are fully 700 bales. Waste Silk.—Not much doing; the following transactions are reported:—

	at Tls.
50 White Fine Gum No. 1 and 2	76
100 Long Shantung B (whole bales)	20
400 Common Szechuen Frisonnet (whole bales)	17/18
Prices calculated by Maerten's Tables at 11 per cent. Exchange 2/8½; Freight Tls. 7.80 per bale.	
	Tls. 8½
	per pol. per lb.
Tsaitles.—Mountain 4	480 11/4
" 5	485 a 487 10/11 11/0
" Bird Yungling	475 11/21
" Bird Seeling	462 10/11
" Gold Lion	475 11/21
" Silver Double Elephant	455 a 460 10/9 a 10/10
" Blue	435 10/81
" Gold Killing	452 a 457 10/81 a 10/10
" Chay Killing	430 a 435 10/2 a 10/3
" Siebing's Quongfoong	450 10/71
" Blue Phoenix	450 10/71
Hangchow Tsaitles.—Pagoda Tinghow	450 10/2
Taysam.—9 by 12 Moss, Green Stork	380 9/01
" 312 7/51	
Yellow Silk.—Mienchow	300 a 340 7/21 a 8/11
" Meeyang 2	295 7/1
" Kopun	290 6/1 1/2
" Foojung common	210 5/11
" Wongchow	235 a 245 5/81
Steam Filatures.—First Choice, 13/15	700 6/41
" Second	680 5/11
Hand Filature.—Black Horse 1, 2 & 3	avg. 550 12/11
Wild Silk.—Tassah Raw Extra	180 4/81
" No. 1	175 4/4
" 2	162 4/01

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1898-99	1897-98
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	35,859	32,896
Canton	19,593	15,972
Yokohama	11,019	11,355
	66,471	60,223

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1898-99	1897-98
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	3,703	6,765
Canton	6,603	7,905
Yokohama	10,551	18,254
	20,857	32,924

CAMPBOR.

HONGKONG, 9th December.—The firmness continues and prices have advanced considerably. Quotations for Formosa are \$62.50 to \$58.00 Sales, 250 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 14th December.—The improvement has not been maintained and prices are weaker. Quotations are:—

Shekloong, No. 1, White...	\$7.65 to 7.70	per pol.
do. " 2, White...	7.25 to 7.30	"
Shekloong, No. 1, Brown...	4.9 to 5.00	"
do. " 2, Brown...	4.85 to 4.90	"
Swatow, No. 1, White...	7.55 to 7.60	"
do. " 1, White...	7.15 to 7.20	"
Swatow, No. 1, Brown...	4.75 to 4.80	"
do. " 2, Brown...	4.65 to 4.70	"
Foochow Sugar Candy	10.90 to 11.00	"
Shekloong	9.95 to 10.00	"

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per steamer *Savoia*, sailed on the 30th November. For Havre:—1 case private effects, 6 cases human hair, 6 cases Chinaware, 6 cases blackwoodware, 14 cases hats, 25 casks egg yolk, 39 bales canes, 340 cases camphor, and 540 rolls mats. For Havre and/or Hamburg:—27 cases albumin and 166 casks egg yolk; For Havre and/or Hamburg and/or London:—20 cases essential oil, 89 casks egg yolk, and 140 cases camphor. For Hamburg:—2 cases ylang ylang, 3 cases private effects, 5 cases curios, 5 cases cigars, 7 cases sundries, 10 cases essential oil, 50 boxes palm leaf fans, 50 boxes crackers, 141 bales canes, 500 bales broken cassia, 613 cases camphor, and 1,037 packages tea. For Hamburg and/or Bremen:—25 casks preserves. For London:—110 cases camphor. For New York:—6 cases hats.

Per steamer *Myrmidon*, sailed on the 29th November. For London:—20 cases essential oil, 80 cases bristles, 10 cases cigars, 10 cases blackwoodware, 370 cases palm leaf fans, 67 cases Chinaware, 3 cases earthenware, 153 cases and 20 cases preserves, 300 bales waste silk, 50 bales feathers, 1,850 bales hemp, 1,055 rolls matting, 20 packages bamboo, and 5 packages sundries. For London and/or Manchester:—75 bales waste silk. For Manchester:—2 cases effects and 20 bales waste silk. For Liverpool:—998 bales hemp, and 2 bales feathers. For Glasgow:—150 cases ginger. For Rotterdam and/or Amsterdam:—100 cases ginger.

Per steamer *Oceanien*, sailed on the 3rd December. For Port Said:—25 bales punjom silk. For France:—359 bales raw silk, 50 bales waste silk, 4 cases silk, 5 cases essential oil, 10 cases books, 250 cases staranised, 48 cases furniture, 120 packages tea, 40 packages hair, 236 packages matting, and 67 packages galangal. For London:—70 bales raw silk and 1 case silks.

Per P. & O. steamer *Java*, sailed on the 3rd December. For London and/or Manchester:—100 bales waste silk. For London:—39 cases cigars from Manila, 40 bales canes, 73 bales feathers, 1,006 rolls mats and matting, 4 cases feathers, 3 cases blackwoodware, 49 cases Chinaware, 1 case lacqueredware 4 cases silk piece goods, 4 cases effects, 27 cases cigars, 35 cases pearl shells, 103 cases preserves, 19 cases sundries, 8,315 boxes and 70 $\frac{1}{2}$ -chests. tea.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 9th December.—Bengal.—The market has ruled dull during the interval and prices have receded, closing at \$797 $\frac{1}{2}$ for New Patna and at \$800 for New Benares.

Malwa.—There has been a further decline in prices, latest quotations being as under:—
New \$720 with all'nce of $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ catty
Old (2/3 yrs.) \$750 " " 0 to 1 "
" (4/5 ") \$800 " " $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{4}$ "
" (6/7 ") \$830 " " 0 to 2 "

Persian.—Business has been very meagre without any change in quotations. Current figures are \$550 to \$650 for Oily and \$640 to \$700 for Paper-wrapped according to quality.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—

New Patna	1,945 chests
New Benares	327 "
Old Benares	16 "
Malwa	698 "
Persian	778 "

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1898.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Dec. 3	797 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	802 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	720	—
Dec. 4	797 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	802 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	720	—
Dec. 5	800	—	805	—	720	—
Dec. 6	800	—	805	—	720	—
Dec. 7	797 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	802 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	720	—
Dec. 8	797 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	800	—	720	—
Dec. 9	797 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	800	—	720	—

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 9th December.—With a decline of $\frac{1}{4}$ small business has been done in the New Crop, while the Old Crop was almost neglected. Stock, about 2,200 bales.

Bombay	14.50 to 16.50 picul.
Kurrachee	to "
Bengal (New), Rangoon, and Dacca	16.00 to 17.75 picul.
Shanghai and Japanese	19.00 to 20.00 "
Tungchow and Ningpo	19.00 to 20.00 "
Madras (Best)	to "
Sales: 300 bales Bengal (New), Rangoon, and Dacca.	

RICE.

HONGKONG, 9th December.—A steady advance in prices has to be reported, holders being very firm. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary	\$2.55 to 2.60
" Round, good quality	2.68 to 2.73
" Long	2.87 to 2.92
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2	2.70 to 2.75
" Garden, " No. 1	2.95 to 3.00
" White	3.70 to 3.75
" Fine Cargo	3.95 to 4.00

COALS.

HONGKONG, 9th December.—A sale of Cardiff to arrive 1,800 tons at \$19. Large Contracts for 1899 for Japanese have been made. Total sales, 60,000 tons at \$8.10 to \$10.25. Quotations are:—

Cardiff	\$19.00 to — ex ship, nominal
Australian	10.00 to 10.50 ex ship, "
Milki Lump } and Small }	9.00 to 10.25 nominal
Moji Lump ...	8.00 to 9.50 ex ship, steady
Hongay double screened	12.00 ex Godown
Hongay Lump	8.00 to 8.50 ex ship
Hongay Dust ..	5.50 to —
Briquettes ...	10.00 to —

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 9th December.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—*Bombay Yarns*.—1,700 bales No. 10 at \$67 $\frac{1}{2}$ to \$86 $\frac{1}{2}$; 450 bales No. 12 at \$74 $\frac{1}{2}$ to \$80, 250 bales No 16 at \$83 $\frac{1}{2}$ to \$87, 1,250 bales No. 20 at \$80 to \$98. *Japanese Yarns*.—100 bales No. 20 at \$83 $\frac{1}{2}$ to \$84 $\frac{1}{2}$. *Grey Shirtings*.—600 pieces 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Blue Fish at \$2.50, 300 pieces 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Blue G. No. 1 at \$2.96, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Red 5 Men at \$3.32 $\frac{1}{2}$, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Blue Dragon at \$3.95. *White Shirtings*.—1,000 pieces Gold Goose at \$4.32 $\frac{1}{2}$, 1,000 pieces S.Q. at \$4.37 $\frac{1}{2}$, 250 pieces Gold Dragon at \$5.25, 1,000 pieces Fox and Duck at \$5.30. *T.Cloths*.—750 pieces 7 lbs. Silver Lion No. 2 at \$1.80, 375 pieces 7 lbs. Gold Dragon at \$2.34, 900 pieces 8 lbs. C.C. at \$3.07 $\frac{1}{2}$, 300 pieces 8 lbs. V.V. at \$2.95, 600 pieces 8 lbs. Gold Dragon at \$2.72 $\frac{1}{2}$. *Drills*.—300 pieces 16 lbs. Large Eagle at \$5.35. *Blankets*.—40 bales Scarlet No. 1 at \$0.70 per lb.

Metals.—Iron.—4,000 bundles Nailrod No. 1/6 at \$3.92 $\frac{1}{2}$. Lead.—1,680 piculs Australian at \$3.45 to arrive.

SHANGHAI, 3rd December.—(From Messrs. Noel, Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade Report) The season for the trade with Tientsin has come to an end, the last two steamers clearing to-day, though possibly it may be attempted to despatch one more on the morning of the 5th instant, but the severe state of the weather in the North makes it a little doubtful. As anticipated in our last business is now practically over for the season, considering it will be confined for the next three months to the so-called "British sphere of influence," which is, and has been for some time past, in anything but a promising condition. In fact it appears to be in a more perturbed state than any other part of the Empire, the disaffected districts being so remote it is impossible to get any outside influences to bear on them, the necessary gunboat never having penetrated so far inland. The rebels in Szechuen have broken out again and trade is paralyzed for the time being, all orders for goods for that district being cancelled. Attempts are being made in several parts of the country to stir up the masses against foreigners, but so far without much effect fortunately; it just shows, however, how much faith can be placed in the present authorities and how much security there will be to life and property when it is attempted to open up the country, in face of the prevailing ignorance of the population and the opposition of the officials. Business has been confined chiefly to transactions for forward delivery, the demand for immediate consumption being very limited, and the high prices ruling in the home markets have prevented much indenting being done. Clearances of American goods for Tientsin during the interval have been brisk, and English makes are changing hands amongst the Natives more freely, especially heavy Shirtings for Ningpo, and fairly steady prices have been maintained at the Auctions. The Yarn market is very dull, not to say depressed, chiefly owing to the large quantities in the hands of the Natives. A little more has been done this week by the local Mills, but the tendency of prices is lower. Cotton is weak, but nominally unchanged.

Metals. 5th December (From Messrs. Alex Bielfeld & Co.'s Report).—Metals have been the source of considerable anxiety during the period, the desire of the dealers here to fill owing to the reported hardening of European markets being curtailed largely by the above mentioned insecurity in futures. However, the following orders have been booked and reported and these certainly make a better showing than have many previous weeks:—300 Goffin Nailrod 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ s. 6d. 200 L. B. Lead at 11s. 6.75, spot. 50 cases Yellow Metal Sheathing at 11s. 25.00, spot. 250 tons Boiler Tubes 90s. to 92s., c.i.f. 450 tons London Horse-shoes 83s. to 86s., c.i.f. 4150 tons American Horse-shoes 82s. ex ship. 50 tons Boiler Tubes 90s., spot. 150 tons London Cart Tyres 102s. 6d., c.i.f. 200 tons Old Scrap Iron 72s. to 76s., c.i.f.

EXCHANGE.

FRIDAY, 9th December.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	1/11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bank Bills, on demand	1/11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Credits, at 4 months' sight	1/11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight	1/11 $\frac{1}{2}$
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.46
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.50
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand	1.98 $\frac{1}{2}$
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand	47 $\frac{1}{2}$
Credits, 60 days' sight	48 $\frac{1}{2}$
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	145 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bank, on demand	146
ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer	145 $\frac{1}{2}$
Bank, on demand	146
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight	71 $\frac{1}{2}$
Private, 30 days' sight	72 $\frac{1}{2}$
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand	4 $\frac{1}{2}$ % pm.
ON MANILA.—	
On demand	2 $\frac{1}{2}$ % pm.
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand	1 % pm.
SOVEREIGNS Bank's Buying Rate	10.13
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	53.25

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 9th December.—The market has ruled dull with but little business, but rates have as a rule been well maintained and in some cases show an improvement.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai, after further small sales at 232, were negotiated at 233, 233 $\frac{1}{2}$, and 234, closing nominally at 235 per cent. prem. On time shares have changed hands at 241 and 242, for February at 244, and 245 for March. Nationals remain unchanged with small sales at quotation.

MARINE INSURANCES.—China Traders have found buyers at \$62 $\frac{1}{2}$ and \$63, Unions at \$232 $\frac{1}{2}$, Cantons at \$150, and Straits at \$7 and \$6.75, whilst the Northern Insurances still continue dull and without any local business.

FIRE INSURANCES.—The market continues very dull and inactive with only small sales of Hongkongs at \$320 and of Chinas at \$88.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have found buyers at \$26 $\frac{1}{2}$ and \$27 cash and end of the month, closing steady at \$26 $\frac{1}{2}$. Indo-Chinas continue neglected with only a small business at \$59. Douglasses have found buyers at \$54 and \$53 and China Manilas at the advanced rate of \$88. China Mutuals are still in request but without sales.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars have changed hands at \$170 and \$169, closing rather quieter with sellers at \$168. Luzons have experienced a decline to \$59 with a small business at \$61 and \$60.

MINING.—Punjoms.—During the early part of the week a demand from the North sent the rate suddenly up to \$7 and as high as \$7.25 is reported to have been paid. Immediately the demand was satisfied, however, the rate again fell to \$6.25, at which rate shares changed hands, and the market closes steady at that. Raubs have been in some request from the South and have changed hands at \$37, \$37 $\frac{1}{2}$, \$38, \$38 $\frac{1}{2}$, and \$39, market closing with buyers at \$38 $\frac{1}{2}$. Jelebus remain on offer without leading to business. A small demand for Charbonnages on time remains unsatisfied. Olivers have changed hands at \$5 $\frac{1}{2}$ and \$5.25 and Great Easterns at \$7.90 to \$7.40.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks have ruled firm, but without much business, small sales at 270 and 271 per cent prem. for cash and at 281 and 282 for March being all there is to report. Kowloon Wharves continue in demand at \$72 without bringing any shares on the market. Wanchais remain unchanged and without business.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands have ruled rather weaker with sales at \$76 and later at \$75. Hotels have also received a check and offers to sell at \$67 have met with no response. West Points with a pending call of \$10 a share are freely offered at

\$20 without finding buyers. Humphreys have ruled steady with sales at \$8.60 and \$8.65, closing with small sellers at \$8.70. Cottons continue dull and without local business; the quotations are from the Shanghai circulars.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Star Ferries have changed hands at \$10, Watsons at \$12, China Providents at \$10.25, and Ices at \$11.8. Electrics have ruled easier with sellers at \$11 and no business; an offer of \$11 would probably bring out shares.

Closing quotations are as follow:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION.
Banks—		
Hongkong & Shanghai...	\$125	235 % prem=
China & Japan, prf.	£5	nominal
Do. ordinary...	£4	£1, buyers
Do. deferred...	£1	£5.5s.
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	£8	\$17, sales
Founders Shares...	£8	\$17, sales
Bell's Asbestos E. A. ...	£1	nominal
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$8
China Prov. L. & M....	\$10	\$10.25, sales & sel.
China Sugar	\$100	\$168, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo.....	Tls. 100	Tls. 72½
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 80
Laou Kung Mow ...	Tls. 100	Tls. 80
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 400
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 55
Hongkong	\$70	\$43, sellers
Dairy Farm Co.	\$3	\$5
Fenwick & Co., Geo. ...	\$25	\$29½
Green Island Cement...	\$10	\$24
Do. New Issue	\$5	\$14, sellers
H. & China Bakery ...	\$50	\$33
Hongkong & C. Gas ...	£10	\$126
Hongkong Electric ...	\$10	\$11, sellers
H. H. L. Tramways ...	\$100	\$121, buyer
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$67, sellers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$116, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G....	\$50	\$72, buyers
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$170, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	271 p. ct. prem.=
Insurances—		
Canton	\$50	\$150, sales & sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$88, sales
China Traders'	\$25	\$62½, sal. & sellers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$320
North-China	\$25	Tls. 180-
Straits	\$20	\$7
Union	\$50	\$232½, sal. & sellers
Yangtze	\$60	\$125, sales
Land and Building—		
H. Land Investment...	\$50	\$76, sellers
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$8.75, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$18, buyers
West Point Building	\$40	\$20, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$58
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$101
Great E. & C'donian	\$5	\$7.40
Jebleu	\$5	\$3.70, sellers
Queens Mines Ltd....	25c.	70 cts., sales
Oliver's Mines, A....	\$5	\$7, buyers
Do. B.	\$2½	\$5.25, buyers
Punjom	\$5	\$6.25, buyers
Do. Preference...	\$1	\$1.50
Rauhs	14s. 10d.	\$38½, buyers
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$16, sellers
Steamship Coy.—		
China and Manila...	\$50	\$88, buyers
China Mutual Ord...	£10	£9. 10s., buyers
Do. Preference ...	£10	£5 10s., buyers
Do. Do.	£5	£3, buyers
Douglas S. S. Co. ...	\$50	\$53, sellers
H. Canton and M....	\$15	\$26½, buyers
Indo-China S. N....	£10	\$58½, sellers
Star Ferry	\$7½	\$11, sellers
Tebrau Planting Co. ...	\$5	\$5, sellers
Do. Do.	\$2	\$3, sellers
United Asbestos	\$2	\$1.40, buyers
Do. Do.	\$10	\$10, nominal
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$37½	\$41
Watson & Co., A. S....	\$10	\$12½, sales

J. V. Y. VERNON, broker.

SHANGHAI, 5th December.—From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report.—Business has been rather dull. We note an improvement in Luzon Sugar shares. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Cash shares were sold at 228 per cent. premium. National Bank of China shares were placed at \$17. Marine Insurance.—China Traders' Insurance shares were placed to Hongkong at \$62. North-China Insurance shares changed hands at Tls. 180. Fire Insurance.—No business reported. Sugars.—Perak Sugar Cultivation shares are offering at Tls. 38. Luzon Sugar Refining shares have been in strong demand, and business was done at \$50 cash, \$50

for December, \$54.70 and 72 for March. There are cash buyers at \$65 at the close. Mining.—Sheridan Con. Mining and M. Co. shares were sold at Tls. 2.50, and more are wanted. Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Shanghai E. S. and Dock shares were placed at Tls. 88, and Founders' shares were sold at Tls. 225. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares were placed at Tls. 122 cash and Tls. 130 for March, and cash shares are wanted. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment shares are offering at Tls. 90. Industrial.—In Cotton Mill shares, Internationals were placed at Tls. 84 for the 31st March, and Soy Chees at Tls. 400. China Flour Mill shares were sold at Tls. 45, and Ice shares at Tls. 26. American Cigarette shares changed hands at Tls. 62.50. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares were done at Tls. 66 cash and Tls. 71 for March. Shanghai-Langkai Tobacco shares are wanted. A lot of new shares, with Tls. 75 paid up, was sold at Tls. 85. In consequence of the fire, Hall and Holtz shares dropped to \$30, but have recovered to \$31, and are wanted. Shares in J. Llewellyn & Co. were sold at \$57.50. Loans.—Chinese Imperial E Loan Bonds were placed at Tls. 250. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf 6 per cent. Debentures were sold at Tls. 100.50.

BANKS

Hongkong and Shanghai.—\$410.00.

Bank of China and Japan, defd.—\$5.50

Do. ordinary.—Nominal.

National Bank of China, Ltd.—\$17.00.

COTTON MILLS

Ewo Cotton Spinning & W. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 76.00.

Hongkong Cotton S. W. & D. Co.—51.00.

International Cotton Man. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 80.00.

Laou-kung-mow Cotton Co., Ltd.—Tls. 86.00.

Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Co., Ltd.—Tls. 400.00

DOCKS, WHARVES, &c.

Boyd & Co., Ltd., Founders.—Nominal.

Boyd & Co., Limited.—Tls. 185.00.

Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf Company.—\$69.

Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.—\$455.00

S. C. Farnham & Co.—Tls. 160.00.

Shanghai Engineering S. & D. Co.—Tls. 88.00.

Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Tls. 122.00.

INSURANCES

Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.—\$150.00.

China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$88.00.

China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$61.00.

Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$325.00.

North China Insurance Co., Ltd.—Tls. 180.00.

Straits Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$7.25.

Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.—\$232½.

Yangtze Insurance Assn., Ltd.—\$130.

LANDS

Hongkong Land Invest. & A. Co., Ltd.—\$75.

Humphreys Estate and Finance Co., Ltd.—\$8½.

Shanghai Land Invest. Co., (fully pd.)—Tls. 90.00.

MINING

Punjom Mining Co., Ltd.—\$6.00.

Punjom Mining Co., Ltd., pref. shares.—\$1.60.

Baub Australian Gold Mining Co., Ltd.—\$37.00.

Sheridan Consolidated Co.—Tls. 2.50.

SHIPPING

China-Mutual preference.—Tls. 70.00.

Do. ordinary, 25 paid.—Tls. 23.00.

Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 145.00.

Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.—\$53.50.

Hongkong, Canton and Macao.—\$27.00.

Indo-China Steam N. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 43.25.

Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 163.00.

Shanghai Tugboat Co., Ltd.—Tls. 195.00.

Taku Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd.—Tls. 75.00.

SUGAR

China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$166.75.

Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$65.00

Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd.—Tls. 39.50.

MISCELLANEOUS

American Cigarette Co.—Tls. 62.50.

Central Stores, Ltd.—\$10.00.

China Flour Mills Co.—Tls. 45.00.

Hall & Holtz, Ltd.—\$31.00.

Llewellyn & Co., J., Limited.—\$57.50.

Major Brothers, Limited.—Tls. 32.50.

Shanghai Feather Cleaning Co.—Tls. 400.00.

Shanghai Gas Co.—Tls. 210.00.

Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.—Tls. 57.50.

Shanghai Ice, Cold Storage, & Refrigeration Co., Ltd.—Tls. 26.00.

Shanghai Ice Company.—Tls. 90.00.

Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd.—Tls. 115.00.

Do. New Issue.—Tls. 55.

Shanghai Rice Mills Co.—Tls. 27.00.

Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco Co.—Tls. 66.00.

Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.—Tls. 280.00.

Watson Co., A. S., Limited.—\$12.75.

TONNAGE

HONGKONG, 9th December.—Freights during the past fortnight remain steady.

There is a better demand Saigon to Hongkong the rate being firm at 13 cents per picul To Java

one fixture has been effected at 21 cents per picul which satisfies present requirements.

Bangkok to this there is an enquiry for medium sized tonnage at 20 and 25 cents per picul for several consecutive trips 23 and 28 cents per picul is offered.

Hence to Tamsui cargo is freely offered at 25 cents per picul.

Japan coal freights from Moji to Hongkong have dropped to \$2 per ton. Singapore the rate remains at \$3.10 per ton.

Several handy sized steamers with cargo ports and Hongkong Government license to carry native passengers have been taken for the trade between Saigon and Bangkok to this.

Sailing tonnage is wanted hence to San Francisco at about \$3.50 U.S. gold per ton.

The following are the settlements:—

Kensington—British ship, 1,645 tons, hence to London, private terms.

Bittern—British schooner, 399 tons, Mantung to Singapore, \$1,650 in full.

Taihu—German bark, 1,063 tons, Bangkok to Hongkong, 14½ cents and 19½ cents per picul.

Prosper—Norwegian steamer, 788 tons, Bangkok to Hongkong, 21 cts and 26 cents per picul.

Ningpo—British steamer, 1,240 tons, Iloilo to one port Japan, 8½ cents; if two ports 32½ cents per picul.

Tordenskjold—Norwegian steamer, 904 tons, Hongkong to Hongkong, \$1.45 per ton.

Deuteros—German steamer, 1,001 tons, Hongkong to Hongkong, \$1.45 per ton.

Ebani—British steamer, 1,093 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.25, Canton \$2.50 per ton.

Toyo Maru—Japanese steamer, 1,548 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.25 per ton.

Ningchow—British steamer, 1,735 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.25 per ton.

Tai Sang—British steamer, 1,505 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2.25 per ton.

Benlawers—British steamer, 1,484 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2 per ton.

Anigo—German steamer, 882 tons, Moji to Hongkong, \$2 per ton.

On Sang—British steamer, 1,787 tons, Moji or Kuchinotzu to Singapore, \$3.10 per ton.

Lombard—British steamer, 1,658 tons, Moji to Singapore, \$3.10 per ton.

Progress—German steamer, 799 tons, hence to Saigon, kerosine oil, 9 cents per case; thence to Hongkong, 13 cents per picul.

Germania—German steamer, 1,775 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 12½ cents per picul.

Holstein—German steamer, 1,103 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 13 cents per picul.

Mongkut—British steamer, 850 tons, Saigon to Hongkong, 13 cents per picul.

Kashing—British steamer, 1,153 tons, Saigon to Sourabaya, 21 cents per picul.

Quarta—German steamer, 1,141 tons, monthly, 12 months, \$7.00 per month.

China—German steamer, 1,271 tons, monthly, 12 months, \$5.50 per month.

Elke—German steamer, 903 tons, monthly, 7/3 months, \$6.00 per month.

Sullberg—German steamer, 782 tons, monthly, 1/11 months, \$4.00 per month.

Picciola—German steamer, 875 tons, monthly, 6/6 months, \$4.00 per month.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—Ceylon (str.), Orestes (str.), Glenavon (str.).

For BREMEN.—Prins Heinrich (str.).

For MARSEILLES.—Sanuki Maru (str.), Melbourne (str.).

For HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—Heidelberg (str.), Königsberg (str.), Bamberg (str.).

For HAMBURG AND ANTWERP.—Asturia (str.).

For GENOA AND HAMBURG.—Sibiria (str.).

For TRIESTE.—Marquis Bacquehem (str.).

For SAN FRANCISCO.—Coptic (str.), City of Rio

de Janeiro (str.), Nippon Maru (str.).

For VANCOUVER.—Empress of Japan (str.).

For VICTORIA, B.C., AND TACOMA.—Tacoma (str.).

For PORTLAND, O., Lennox (str.).

For SAN DIEGO.—Belgian King (str.).

For NEW YORK.—Iolani, Eidsvold (str.), Reuco,

Glenartney (str.), Drumaltan, Braemar (str.).

For AUSTRALIA.—Airlie (str.), Omi Maru (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST

MAIL.

HONGKONG.

December—

2, Elke, German str., from Haiphong.

3, Hermes, Norwegian str., from Hongkong.

3, Nanyang, British str., from Singapore.

3, Mogul, British str., from Portland, Or.

3, Fushun, Chinese str., from Shanghai.

3, Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.

3, Heidelberg, German str., from Hamburg.
 3, Daphne, German str., from Chefoo.
 3, Meefoo, Chinese str., from Swatow.
 3, Tainan, British str., from Sydney.
 3, Whampoa, British str., from Canton.
 3, China, German str., from Saigon.
 3, Kweiyang, British str., from Amoy.
 3, Deutschland, German cruiser, from Amoy.
 3, Kwangse, British str., from Chefoo.
 3, Progress, German str., from Tamsui.
 3, Chw'nsan, British str., from Amoy.
 3, Kashing, British str., from Panarukan.
 4, Bygdo, Norw. str., from Newchwang.
 4, Hikosan Maru, Jap. str., from K'notzu.
 4, Taicheong, German str., from Saigon.
 4, Taichow, British str., from Swatow.
 4, Victoria, British str., from Tacoma.
 4, Ingraban, German str., from Canton.
 4, Mongkut, British str., from Canton.
 4, Tamsui, British str., from Canton.
 4, Marie Jebsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
 4, Sabine Rickmers, Brit. str., from Swatow.
 4, Bengloe, British str., from Singapore.
 5, Loksang, British str., from Canton.
 5, Hohenzollern, Ger. str., from Yokohama.
 5, Ningpo, British str., from Canton.
 5, Salazie, French str., from Marseilles.
 5, Fooksang, British str., from Newchwang.
 5, Siam, British str., from Saigon.
 5, Pakling, British str., from Liverpool.
 5, Sungkiang, British str., from Manila.
 5, Tordenkjold, Norw. str., from Hongay.
 6, Independent, German str., from Canton.
 6, Choyang, British str., from Canton.
 6, Woosung, British str., from Shanghai.
 6, Bayern, German str. from Shanghai.
 6, Nippon Maru, Jap. str., from Yokohama.
 6, Zafiro, Amr. transport, from Manila.
 6, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., from K'notzu.
 6, Harporley, British str., from Rohestor.
 6, Hating, French str., from Haiphong.
 6, Ichang, British str., from Panarukan.
 6, Nanchang, British str., from Tientsin.
 7, Erejr, Danish str., from Tamsui.
 7, Hailan, French str., from PaJhoi.
 7, Hailong, British str., from Tamsui.
 7, P. C. C. Klao, British str., from Bangkok.
 7, Kawachi Maru, Japanese str., from Japan.
 7, Gaiwan Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
 7, Germania, German str. from Swatow.
 7, Taisang, British str., from Moji.
 7, Lyeemoon, German str., from Shanghai.
 7, Hermes, Norw. str., from Canton.
 8, Centurion, British flagship, from Nagasaki.
 8, Bellerophon, British str., from Singapore.
 8, Catherine Apcar, Brit. str., from Calcutta.
 8, Eushun, Chinese str., from Canton.
 8, Ballarat, British str., from Shanghai.
 8, Nanyang, German str., from Taiwanfoo.
 8, Swatow, German str., from Iloilo.
 8, Powerful, British cr., from gun practice.
 8, Clara, German str., from Maanils.
 9, Michael Jebsen, Ger. str., from Haiphong.
 9, Thales, British str., from Foochow.
 9, Triumph, German str., from Hoihow.
 9, Sullberg, German str., from Taiwanfoo.
 9, Trksang, British str., from Wuhu.
 9, Hsin Fung, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 9, City of Rio de Janeiro, Amr. str., from San Francisco.
 9, Fooksang, British str., from Canton.

DEPARTURES.

3, Choyang, British str., for Canton.
 3, Oceanien, French str., for Europe, &c.
 3, Holstein, German str., for Saigon.
 3, Inaba Maru, Jap. str., for Nagasaki.
 3, Java, British str., for London.
 3, Machew, British str., for Swatow.
 3, Diomed, British str., for Shanghai.
 3, Loongmoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 3, Hue, French str., for Haiphong.
 3, Fushun, Chinese str., for Canton.
 3, Hermes, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 3, Letimbro, Italian str., for Bombay.
 3, Amara, British str., for Singapore.
 3, Whampoa, British str., for Shanghai.
 3, Linnet, British gunboat, for Shanghai.
 4, Yiksang, British str., for Manila.
 4, Heidelberg, German str., for Kobe.
 4, Teenkai, British str., for Shanghai.
 4, Kweiyang, British str., for Samarang.
 4, Wongkoi, British str., for Bangkok.
 4, Benvorlich, British str., for Sourabaya.
 4, Pechili, British str., for Tamsui.
 4, Sishan, British str., for Swatow.
 4, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
 4, Formosa, British str., for Amoy.

4, Windsor Castle, British bark, for Callao.
 4, Kwangse, British str., for Canton.
 5, Hanoi, French str., for Hoihow.
 5, Oslo, Norwegian str., for Amoy.
 5, Yiksang, British str., for Manila.
 5, Esmeralda, British str., for Manila.
 5, Bygdo, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 6, Fooksang, British str., for Canton.
 6, Salazie, French str., for Shanghai.
 6, Taichow, British str., for Swatow.
 6, Namyong, British str., for Amoy.
 5, Else, German str., for Hoihow.
 6, Taiyuan, British str., for Nagasaki.
 6, Ningpo, British str., for Iloilo.
 6, Tamsui, British str., for Swatow.
 6, Choyang, British str., for Swatow.
 6, Woosung, British str., for Canton.
 7, Bayern, German str., for Europe.
 7, Daphne, German str., for Vladivostock.
 7, Pakling, British str., for Shanghai.
 7, Kashing, British str., for Saigon.
 7, Powerful, British cr., for gun practice.
 7, Loksang, British str., for Yokohama.
 7, Meefoo, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 7, Victoria, British str., for Tacoma.
 7, Hikosan Maru, Jap. str., for Kutchinotzu.
 7, Nanchang, British str., for Canton.
 8, Cormoran, German cr., for Shanghai.
 8, Bengloe, British str., for Yokohama.
 8, Phra Nang, British str., for Bangkok.
 8, Hermes, Norw. str., for Hongay.
 8, Kawachi Maru, Jap. str., for London.
 8, Independent, German str., for Macao.
 8, Germania, German str., for Saigon.
 8, Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.
 8, Lyeemoon, German str., for Canton.
 8, Mongkut, British str., for Saigon.
 8, Doric, British str., for San Francisco.
 9, Ichang, British str., for Shanghai.
 9, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., for K'notzu.
 9, Hailan, French str., for Pakhoi.
 9, Taicheong, German str., for Amoy.
 9, Archer, British cruiser, for Singapore.
 9, Hatin, French str., for Haiphong.
 9, Mogul, British str., for Yokohama.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Esmeralda*, from Manila, Mr. Dredge, Mr. and Mrs. Astheimer, Messrs. W. Jackson, Jose M. Ramirez, Julio Picard, Gaorez, Lambert, Federico Espenvia, Astheimer, Cruickshank, Reynolds, Mr. and Mrs. Emanuel, Mr. Cadrel, Mr. and Mrs. Alvarez Perez, Messrs. Charles Dreyfus, Randall, Carrasquez, Martin, Wilson, Frend, and Rooney.

Per *Empress of Japan*, from Vancouver, Mrs. E. H. D. Sewell and child, Rev. and Mrs. J. C. Butcher and child, Messrs. L. M. McCormick and Douglas Dick, Miss D. Halverson. From Yokohama, Mr. J. R. Michael, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Loose. From Kobe—Mr. and Mrs. P. N. Evans, Mr. Sknapp, Mr. and Mrs. Miss Hutchins, Mr. and Mrs. Aldrich, Miss Symonds, Messrs. C. F. Aldrich, F. Aldrich, Capt. Berger, Mr. and Mrs. Hurd, Mr. W. S. Martin, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Warning, and Mr. J. Carey Hall. From Shanghai, Mr., Mrs., and Miss Bushnell, Miss Casey, Mr. C. M. Sandford, Rev. M. Hartley, Mr. J. F. Duff, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Mayers, Mr. and Mrs. Kierulff, Messrs. W. H. Talbot, T. Stewart Jones, J. A. Wattie, H. Sampson, and Miss M. J. Russell.

Per *Tsinan*, from Sydney, Mrs. Mills, Mrs. Baker, Miss Warren, Messrs. Guthrie, Barnard, Calder, Varvelli, Crawley, Young Choy; from Port Darwin, Mr. and Mrs. Cecilio; Mrs. Tanako Cheo, Miss Callaghan, Messrs. Cecilio, P. Zarcal, E. Zarcal and Consuigi.

Per *Hohenzollern*, from Yokohama, Count and Countess Konigsmarck, Miss H. Krause, Messrs. A. W. Upton, Th. Wessel, J. Chemeliezok, C. Grane, and H. Czerwinsky.

Per *Salazie*, from Hongkong from Colombo, Madame Serre; from Singapore, Messrs. Ffeng Flin, Luis Cresole, B. Baptista, Laok Long, Mrs. Tye Long and 2 children, Mr. Tam Kin Seon, Mrs. Wee Chow, Mrs. Wee Soo, and Mr. Velhagen; from Saigon, Messrs. Naumann, Pester, Alexander, and Casterton Bernard; from Shanghai from Port Said, Mr. Kaisnini; from Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. d'Huitza and 3 children, Sisters St. Jeane and Ferdinand, Messrs. Elliot, Mazoli, Pravio, Mackin, Mosca, and Munazzi; from Saigon, Mr. Davisé, and Mrs. Thi Sao. For Nagasaki from Colombo, Mr. Molas. For Kobe from Colombo, Mr. C. Offer. For Yoko-

hama from Bombay, Mr. Kodama; from Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. Weill and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. Radkowski; from Singapore, Mr. Savouret; from Saigon, Mr. Cudenet.

Per *Bayern*, from Shanghai, Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Hutchinson, Mrs. A. Clark, Mrs. Sterling, Messrs. O. M. Teasing, Wittmann, John Goodnow, C. H. Gibbs, C. Smith, George Peebles, A. R. Kirk, W. E. Logue, and A. Martin.

Per *Catherine Apcar*, from Calcutta, &c. Mrs. P. C. Manuk and child, and Mr. Ong Juan Guip.

Per *Ballaarat*, from Yokohama for Hongkong, Mr. and Mrs. Phillips, and Mr. G. Bowack; for Singapore, Mr. Forster; for Bombay, Mr. Tudball; for London, Mr. J. Wilson, Mrs. and Miss Walker; Major and Mrs. Hallows, Capt. Mackenzie Grieve, Mrs. and Misses Grieve (2). From Shanghai for Hongkong, Mr. Zagersky, Dr. Faulin, Hon. Hugh Grosvenor, Mr. and Mrs. Remedios and infant; for Marseilles, Mr. J. Wilson; for London, Mr. J. W. Johnson and Miss Heron.

DEPARTED.

Per *Oceanien*, from Hongkong for Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. Menzes and 2 children, Messrs. A. M. C. Marius, F. Ferral, A. Martinez, F. Farjardo, F. Segura, B. Ramirez, G. Garcia, G. Acordagoicoschea, F. Mentero, J. Moreau, F. Montero and servant, G. Martinez, E. Bermito, V. Pardo, G. Francon, J. Galzardo, D. Ruiz, V. Pelaz, P. Mendez, U. Tendon, E. Pirez, J. Picard, and V. E. Carrasquer; for Port Said, Mr. Bjely; for Melbourne, Mr. C. W. Berigny; for Singapore, Messrs. H. J. Valk, Pernod, C. Schroter, Mrs. Bacon, Lim Chin Kay, Mrs. Bedford, Messrs. Fladdon, Ray, Seligmann, Dreyfus, Mr. and Mrs. Butcher and child, Miss Blair; for Saigon, Mr. E. Geyer, A. Sou, J. A. Wattie, and T. Carranza. From Shanghai for Saigon, Mr. Olarac Charles; for Batavia, Mr. and Mrs. Bruns, and Mr. Enrico Mioli; for Marseilles, Messrs. Victor Balidrand, W. W. King, Reeks, Reva, G. Aven and A. Lannay, Messrs. Rozzani and Macé Henri. From Yokohama for Colombo, Mrs. Monaghan, Mrs. Aubert, and Mr. H. S. Wright; for Marseilles, Mr. A. Viremind, Capt. J. Matsuskvitch, and Rev. Michel Riband. From Kobe for Singapore, Messrs. J. Shibuya, Y. Hakajuno, Th. Taulmura, and G. Shibuya; for Marseilles, Mr. Saibel.

Per *Java*, from Hongkong for London, Sub-Lieut. W. R. Alexander, R.N., Midshipman B. L. Coote, Mr. and Mrs. MacCasland Yuill, Lieut. E. K. Story, R.M.L.I., and Asst.-Paymaster F. J. Aylen. For Singapore from Kobe, Mrs. Skinner. For London from Yokohama, Lieut. G. H. S. Potter, R.N., Mr. King Walter, Mr. Whithead William, R.N.; from Shanghai, Mr. Wm. White, and Mr. Ynn Kin Yik.

Per *Salazie*, from Hongkong for Shanghai, Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving, Mr. and Mrs. A. Botelho, Jr., Messrs. F. Vandersteger, J. A. Maclean, F. G. Akermann, A. J. de Souza, C. M. Reynolds, John Doe, and S. Lewis; for Nagasaki, Mr. J. M. Erikson; for Kobe, Messrs. E. Riego, J. Lasada, J. Luna, M. Marti, and J. C. Hall; for Yokohama, Mr. L. C. Parito.

Per *Bayern*, from Hongkong for Singapore, Messrs. H. Sampson and O. Pasquan, Dr. and Mrs. A. Marcus; for Colombo, Mr. and Mrs. J. L. Loose; for Genoa, Mr. and Mrs. W. Astheimer, and Captain Voller; for Southampton, Messrs. E. Fench, H. E. Allen, G. W. Appleby, Capt. and Mrs. S. W. Goggin; for Bremen, Messrs. H. Hampe and Carl Graue. From Shanghai for Singapore, Messrs. H. Munster-Schultz and C. J. P. de Basagosti; for Port Said, Mrs. Laurence; for Naples, Dr. and Mrs. Scranton, Messrs. H. E. F. Kerbedy, Bielaeff, and Rydyewsky; for Genoa, Dr. Buchrucker, Mrs. Gust. Melchers and children, Dr. Goldmann, Mr. and Mrs. Kuschel and 2 children, Mr. and Mrs. March and 2 children, Capt. Lembke, and Mrs. Savina Pagani; for Southampton, Miss Cameron, and Mr. G. P. T. Crofts; for Bremen, Capt. Z. S. Koellner, Mr. J. F. Troyel, Mr. and Mrs. J. Sandberg and child, and Mrs. F. Hallin; for London, Mr. and Mrs. Churchward, Messrs. L. Stockwell and C. Hollyson. From Japan for Deli, Mrs. Oewasa; for Genoa, Messrs. Navkatta Jarrazaki, Th. Wessel, J. Chmeliezok, and Takahashi Rintaro.

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